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**Abhyanker**

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(54) **HOT NEWS NEIGHBORHOOD BANTER IN A GEO-SPATIAL SOCIAL NETWORK**

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CPC ..... ***G06F 17/30386*** (2013.01); ***G06Q 10/10*** (2013.01)

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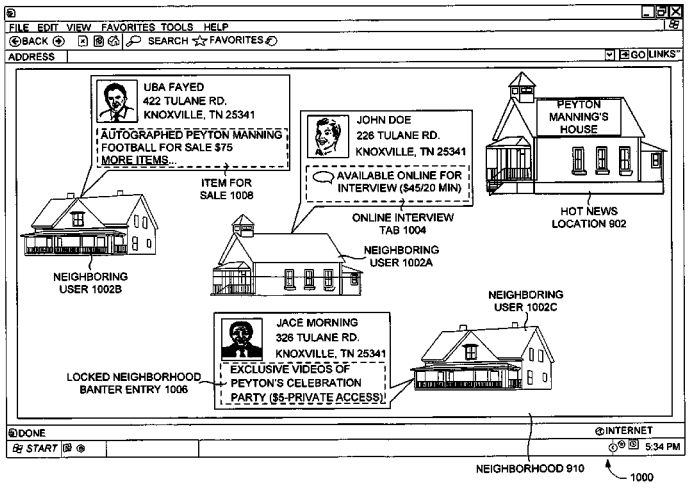
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method and system of hot news neighborhood banter in a geo-spatial social network are disclosed. In one aspect, a method includes identifying a hot news story, associating the hot news story with a specific geographic location, generating a map concurrently displaying a headline of the hot news story and the specific geographic location, and simultaneously generating in the map, profiles associated with a plurality of users surrounding the specific geographic location associated with the hot news story. The method may further include processing a submission form, having an audio file, a video file, a photo, and/or a comment, associated with the hot news story, of a neighboring user located a threshold distance away from the specific geographic location of the hot news story.

**27 Claims, 15 Drawing Sheets**



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| 2014/0108540 | A1 | 4/2014 | Crawford |
| 2014/0108556 | A1 | 4/2014 | Abhyanker |
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| 2014/0114866 | A1 | 4/2014 | Abhyanker |
| 2014/0115671 | A1 | 4/2014 | Abhyanker |
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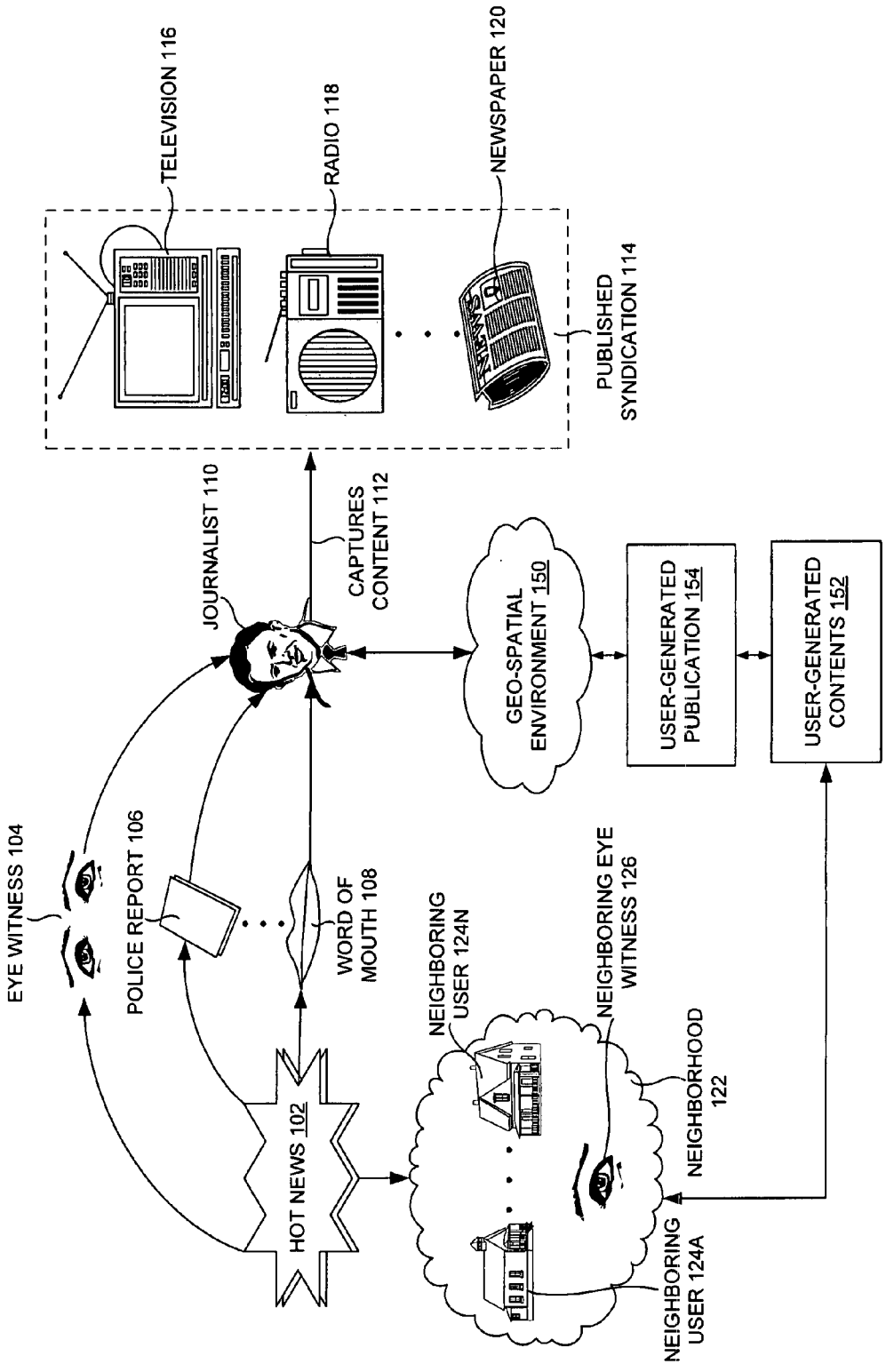
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RADIO 118
NEWSPAPER 120
PUBLISHED SYNDICATION 114
JOURNALIST 110
CAPTURES CONTENT 112
GEO-SPATIAL ENVIRONMENT 150
USER-GENERATED PUBLICATION 154
USER-GENERATED CONTENTS 152
EYE WITNESS 104
POLICE REPORT 106
WORD OF MOUTH 108
HOT NEWS 102
NEIGHBORING USER 124N
NEIGHBORING EYE WITNESS 126
NEIGHBORHOOD 122
NEIGHBORING USER 124A

FIGURE 1

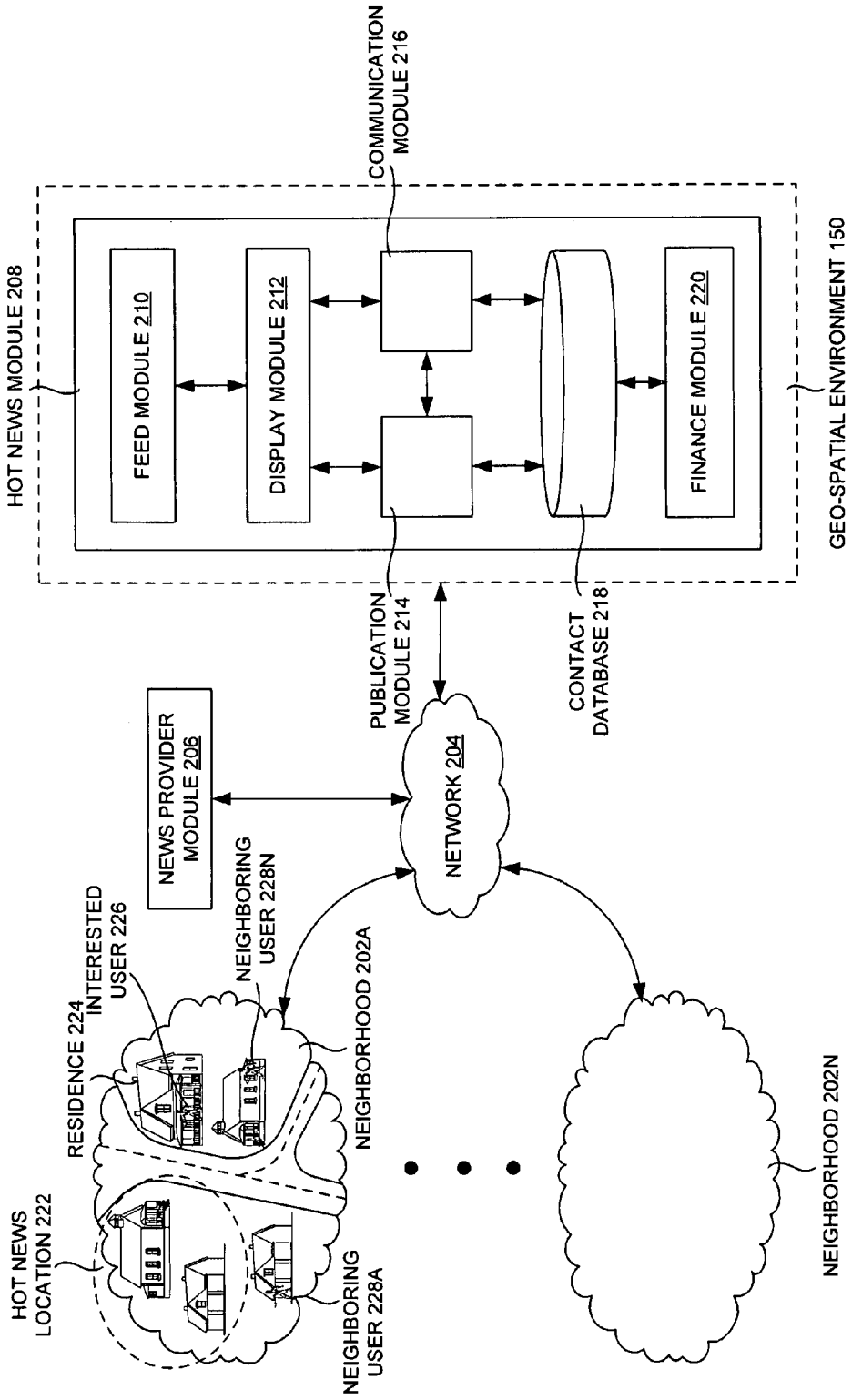
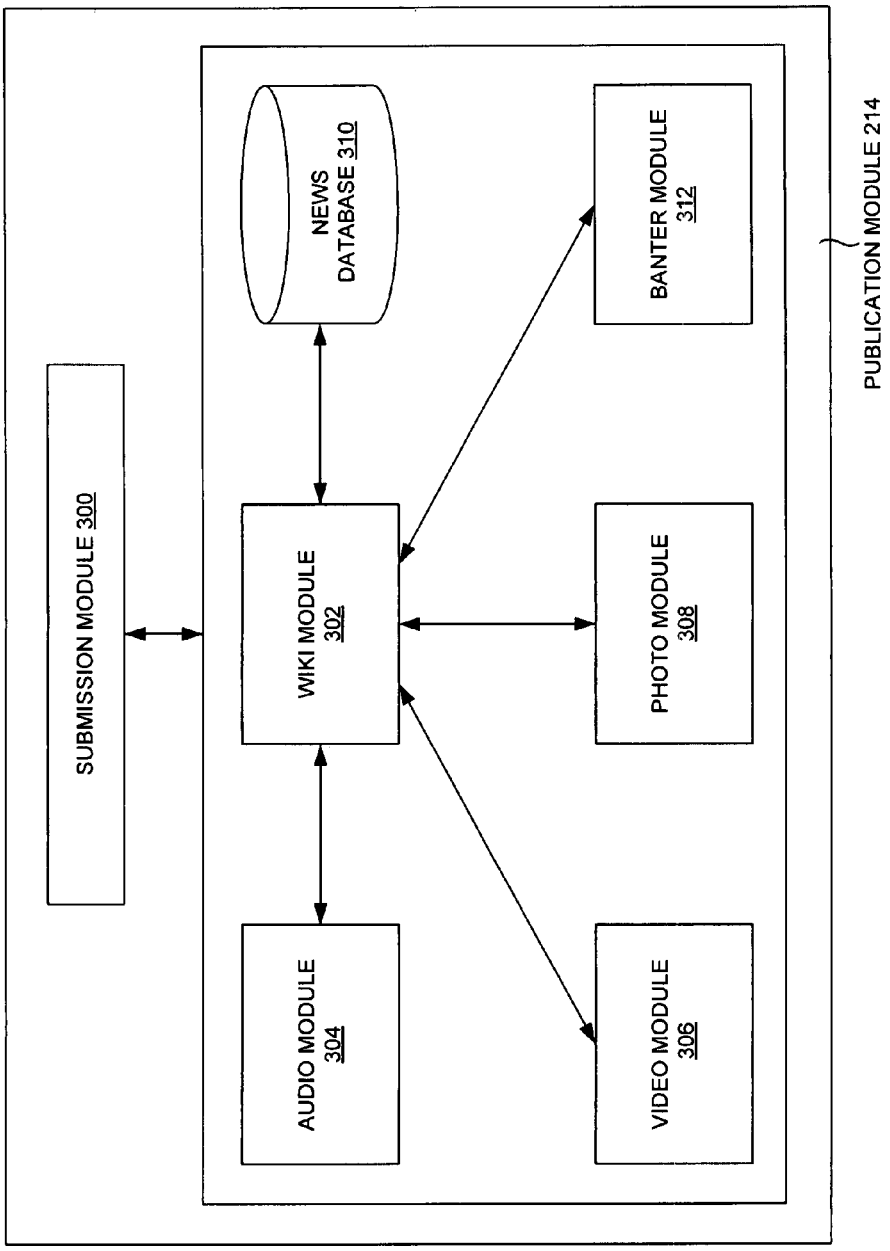

HOT NEWS MODULE 208
FEED MODULE 210
DISPLAY MODULE 212
COMMUNICATION MODULE 216
FINANCE MODULE 220
GEO-SPATIAL ENVIRONMENT 150
PUBLICATION MODULE 214
CONTACT DATABASE 218
NETWORK 204
NEWS PROVIDER MODULE 206
INTERESTED USER 226
RESIDENCE 224
NEIGHBORING USER 228N
NEIGHBORHOOD 202A
HOT NEWS LOCATION 222
NEIGHBORING USER 228A
NEIGHBORHOOD 202N

FIGURE 2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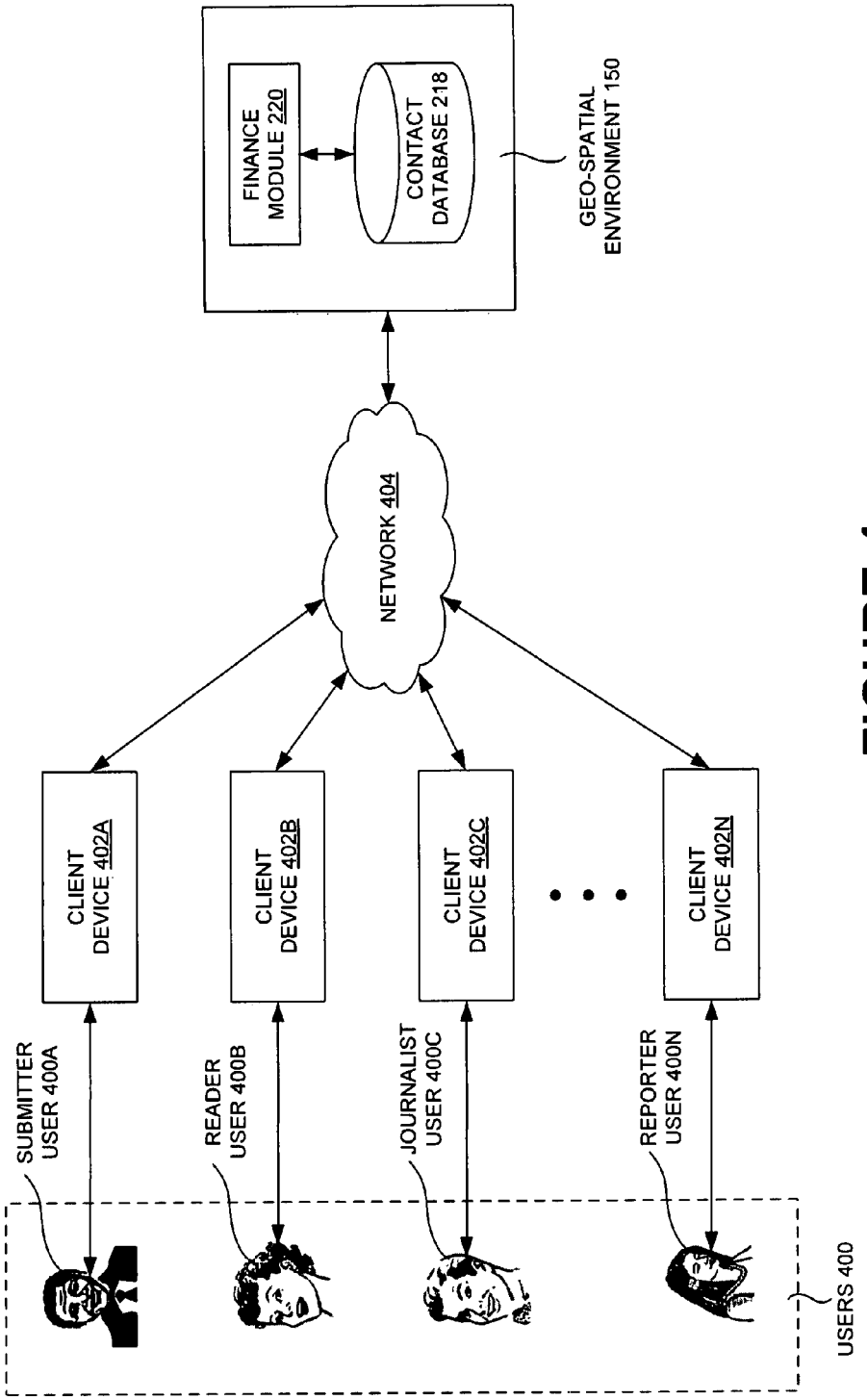
WIKI MODULE 302
AUDIO MODULE 304
BANTER MODULE 312
PHOTO MODULE 308
VIDEO MODULE 306
PUBLICATION MODULE 214

FIGURE 3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GEO-SPATIAL ENVIRONMENT 150
NETWORK 404
CLIENT DEVICE 402A
CLIENT DEVICE 402B
CLIENT DEVICE 402C
CLIENT DEVICE 402N
SUBMITTER USER 400A
READER USER 400B
JOURNALIST USER 400C
REPORTER USER 400N
USERS 400

FIGURE 4

| USER 500 | PROXIMITY 502 | PRINCIPAL ADDRESS 504 | E-MAIL 506 | PUBLICATION TYPE 508 | INSTANT MESSAGE 510 | CONTACT NUMBER 512 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| JOHN SMITH | SAME STREET | 222 TULANE RD. | J.SMITH@MOO.COM | VIDEO CLIP | N/A | N/A |
| BILL HARRIS | 1 MILE | 643 SUNRISE DR. | BILLTHEKID@ASH.COM | BANTER | BILL HARRIS | 926-743-8527 |
| VICTOR DRAZEN | NEXT DOOR | 386 TULANE RD. | 24DRAZEN@FOXX.COM | BANTER | VD24 | 926-743-1126 |
| CHLOE O'HARE | ¼ MILE | 99 HAMI AVE. | SIRROM@CTU.EDU | AUDIO | N/A | N/A |
| STEVE LOWRY | ½ MILE | 64 CANYON CT. | STEVE@CBA.COM | PHOTO | N/A | N/A |
| • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • | • • • |

FIGURE 5

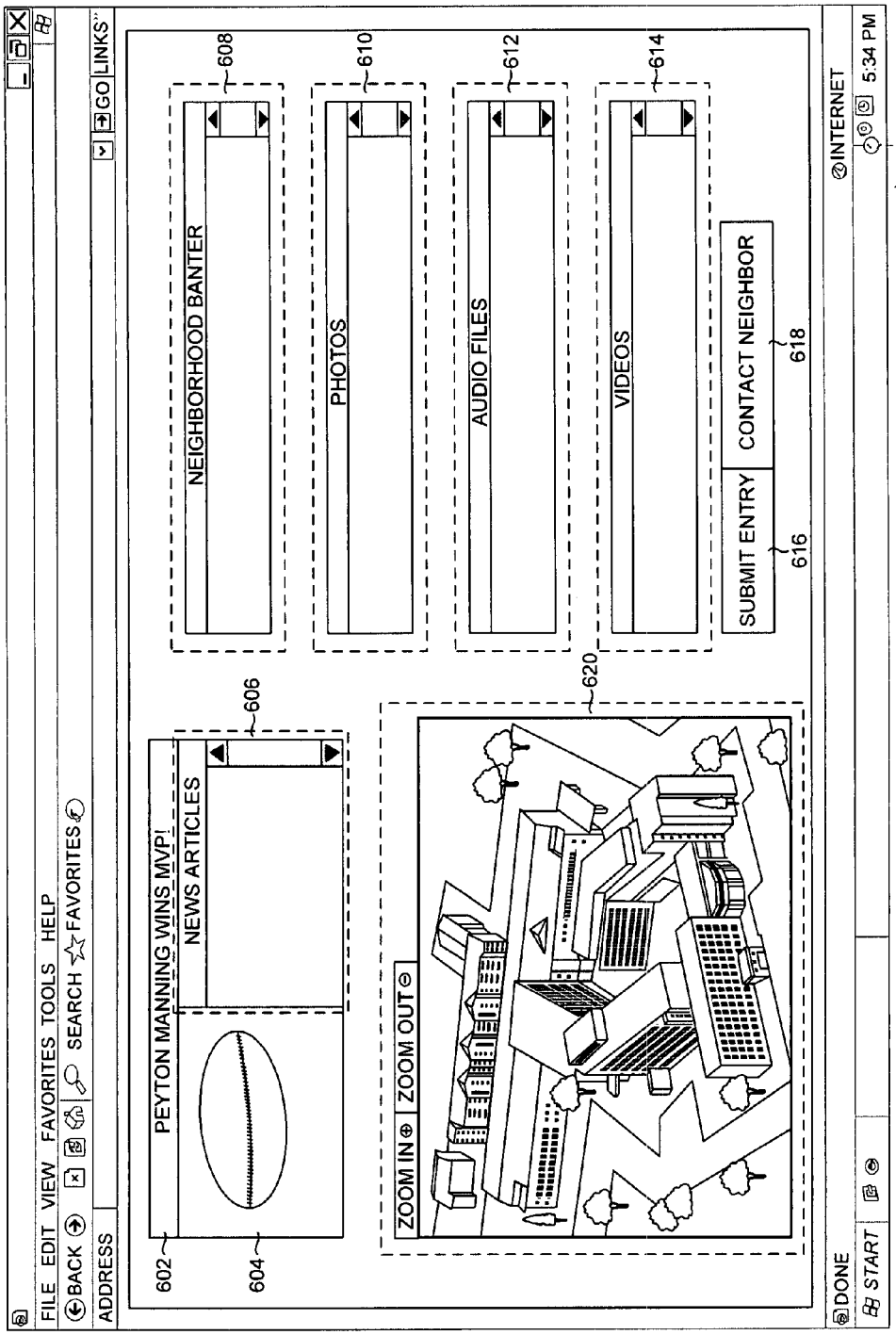

FILE EDIT VIEW FAVORITES TOOLS HELP
BACK SEARCH FAVORITES
ADDRESS
GO LINKS
PEYTON MANNING WINS MVP!
NEWS ARTICLES
602
604
606
ZOOM IN
ZOOM OUT
620
NEIGHBORHOOD BANTER
608
PHOTOS
610
AUDIO FILES
612
VIDEOS
614
SUBMIT ENTRY
616
CONTACT NEIGHBOR
618
DONE
INTERNET
START
5:34 PM
600

FIGURE 6

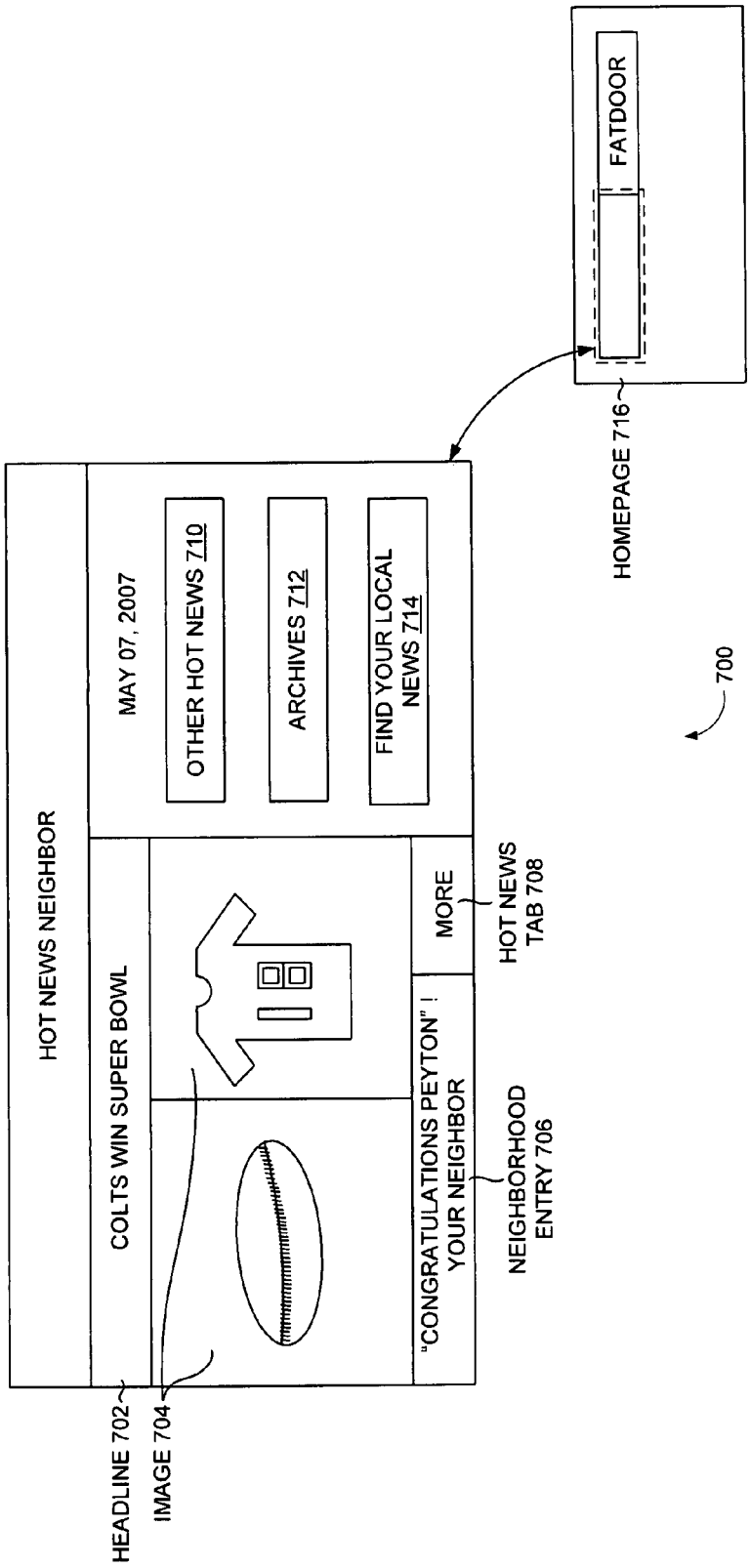
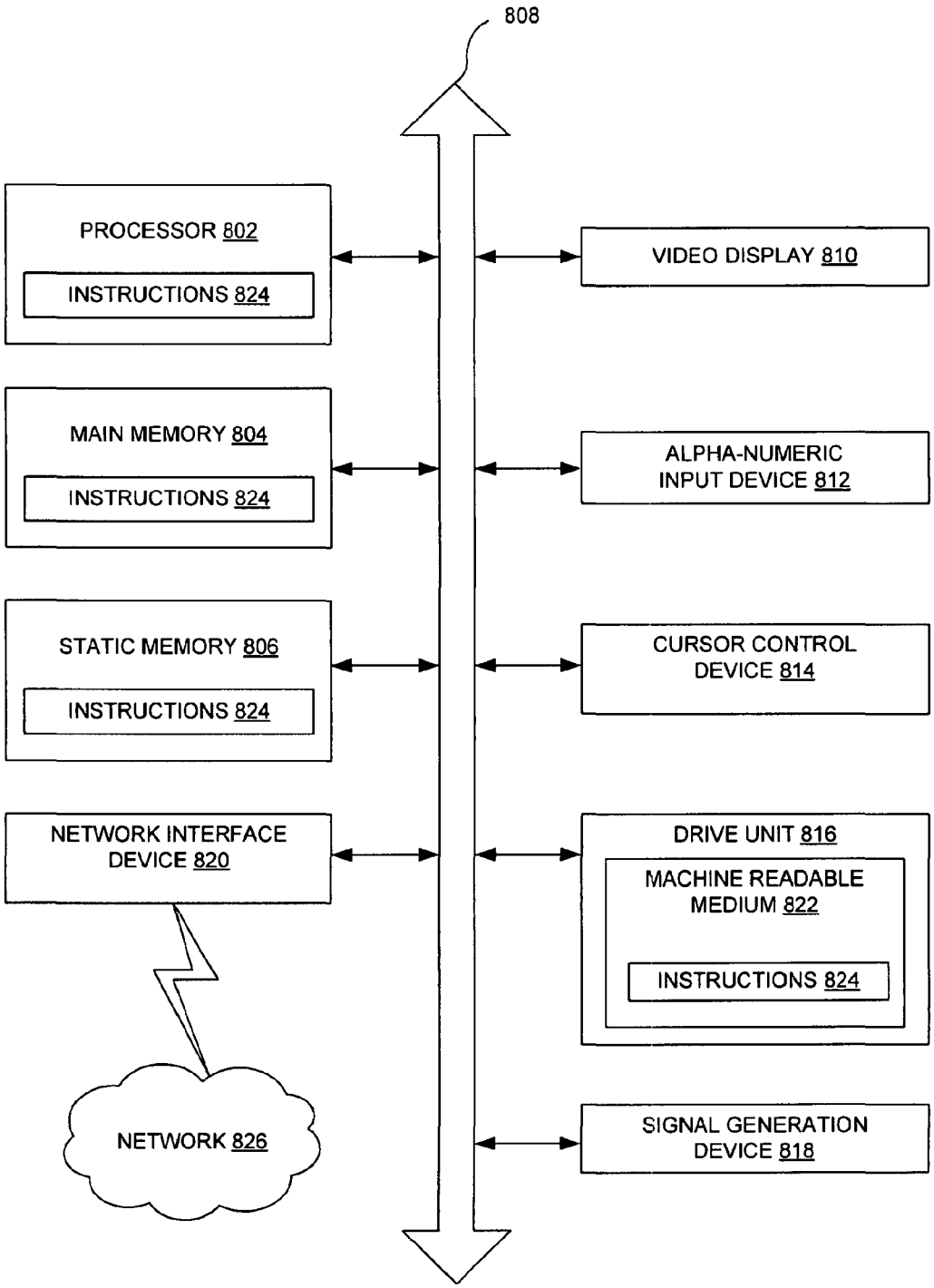

HOT NEWS NEIGHBOR
COLTS WIN SUPER BOWL
MAY 07, 2007
OTHER HOT NEWS 710
ARCHIVES 712
FIND YOUR LOCAL NEWS 714
"CONGRATULATIONS PEYTON" ! YOUR NEIGHBOR
MORE
HOT NEWS TAB 708
NEIGHBORHOOD ENTRY 706
HEADLINE 702
IMAGE 704
HOMEPAGE 716
FATDOOR
700

FIGURE 7




DIAGRAMMATIC SYSTEM VIEW 800

FIGURE 8

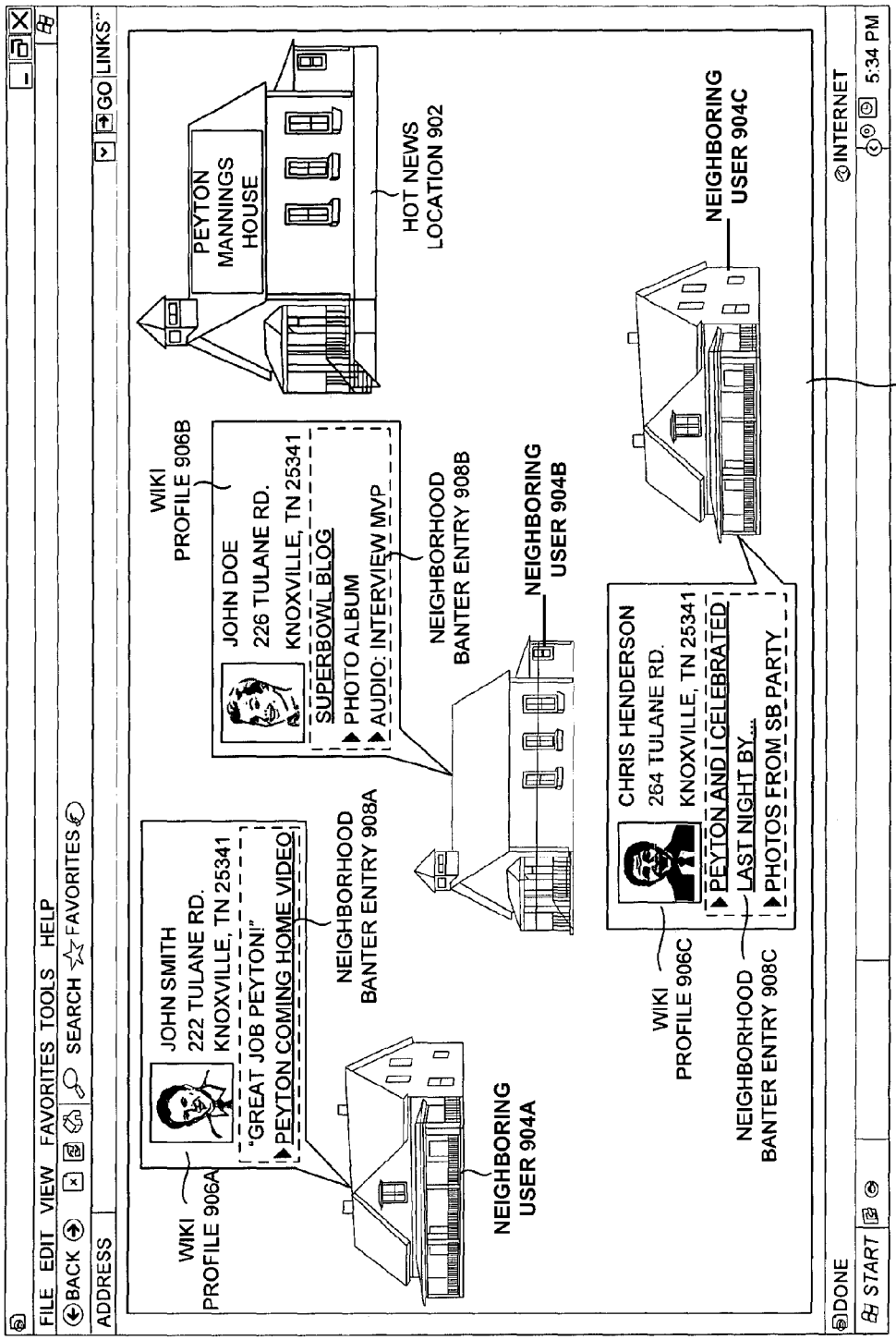

FILE EDIT VIEW FAVORITES TOOLS HELP
BACK SEARCH FAVORITES
ADDRESS
GO LINKS"
PEYTON MANNINGS HOUSE
HOT NEWS LOCATION 902
WIKI PROFILE 906B
JOHN DOE
226 TULANE RD.
KNOXVILLE, TN 25341
SUPERBOWL BLOG
PHOTO ALBUM
AUDIO: INTERVIEW MVP
NEIGHBORHOOD BANTER ENTRY 908B
NEIGHBORING USER 904B
NEIGHBORING USER 904C
JOHN SMITH
222 TULANE RD.
KNOXVILLE, TN 25341
"GREAT JOB PEYTON!"
PEYTON COMING HOME VIDEO
NEIGHBORHOOD BANTER ENTRY 908A
WIKI PROFILE 906A
NEIGHBORING USER 904A
CHRIS HENDERSON
264 TULANE RD.
KNOXVILLE, TN 25341
PEYTON AND I CELEBRATED
LAST NIGHT BY...
PHOTOS FROM SB PARTY
WIKI PROFILE 906C
NEIGHBORHOOD BANTER ENTRY 908C
DONE
INTERNET
START
5:34 PM
NEIGHBORHOOD 910
900

FIGURE 9

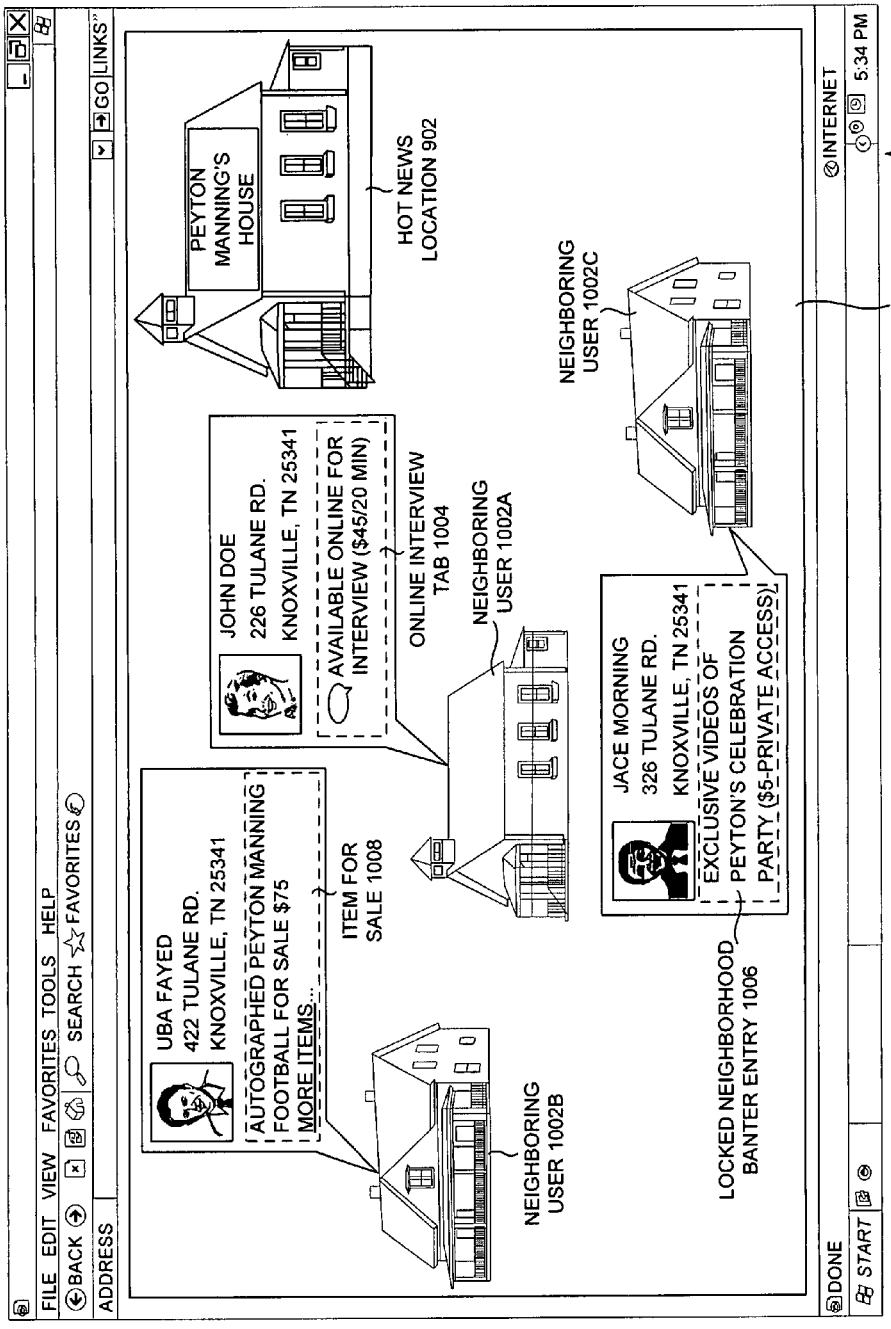

FILE EDIT VIEW FAVORITES TOOLS HELP
BACK SEARCH FAVORITES
ADDRESS
GO LINKS
UBA FAYED
422 TULANE RD.
KNOXVILLE, TN 25341
AUTOGRAPHED PEYTON MANNING FOOTBALL FOR SALE $75
MORE ITEMS...
ITEM FOR SALE 1008
NEIGHBORING USER 1002B
JOHN DOE
226 TULANE RD.
KNOXVILLE, TN 25341
AVAILABLE ONLINE FOR INTERVIEW ($45/20 MIN)
ONLINE INTERVIEW TAB 1004
NEIGHBORING USER 1002A
PEYTON MANNING'S HOUSE
HOT NEWS LOCATION 902
NEIGHBORING USER 1002C
JACE MORNING
326 TULANE RD.
KNOXVILLE, TN 25341
EXCLUSIVE VIDEOS OF PEYTON'S CELEBRATION PARTY ($5-PRIVATE ACCESS)
LOCKED NEIGHBORHOOD BANTER ENTRY 1006
NEIGHBORHOOD 910
1000
DONE
INTERNET
START
5:34 PM

FIGURE 10

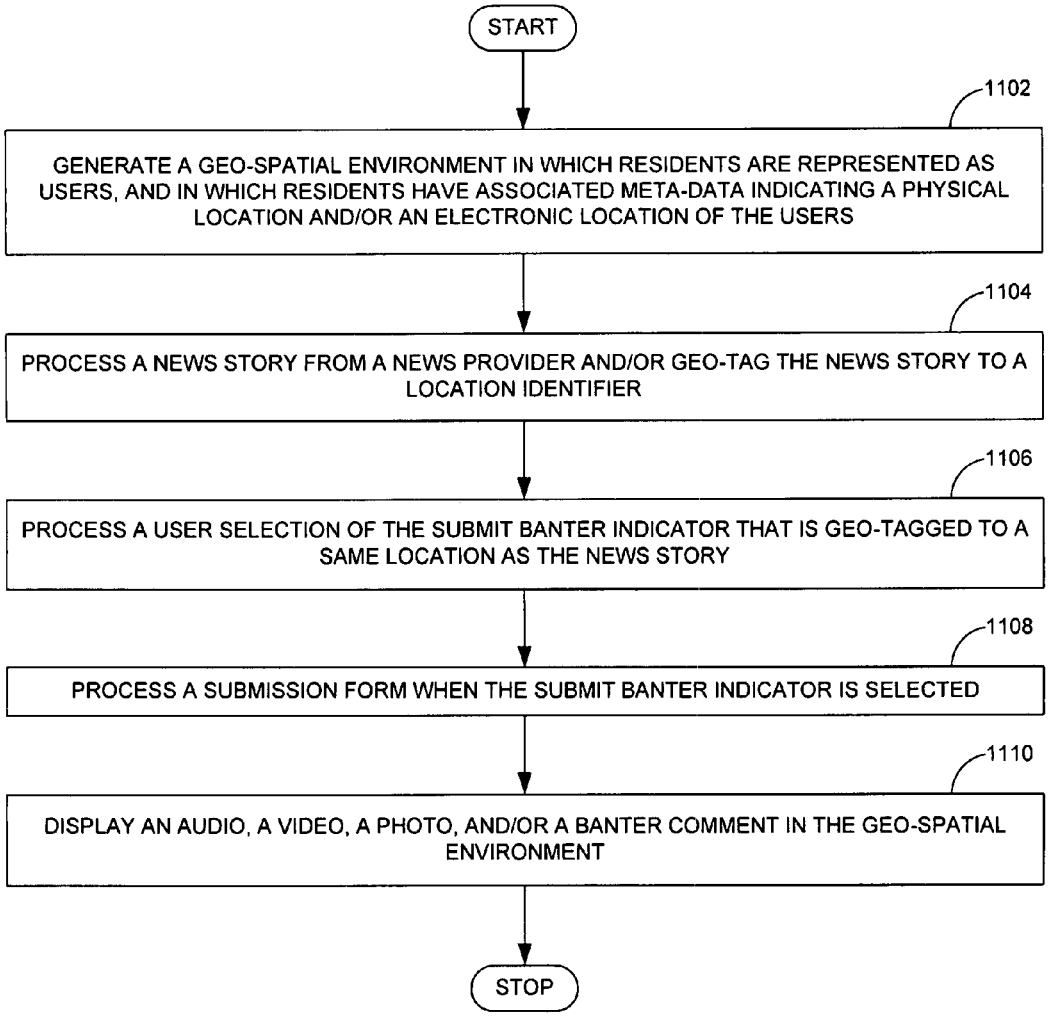

START
1102
GENERATE A GEO-SPATIAL ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH RESIDENTS ARE REPRESENTED AS USERS, AND IN WHICH RESIDENTS HAVE ASSOCIATED META-DATA INDICATING A PHYSICAL LOCATION AND/OR AN ELECTRONIC LOCATION OF THE USERS
1104
PROCESS A NEWS STORY FROM A NEWS PROVIDER AND/OR GEO-TAG THE NEWS STORY TO A LOCATION IDENTIFIER
1106
PROCESS A USER SELECTION OF THE SUBMIT BANTER INDICATOR THAT IS GEO-TAGGED TO A SAME LOCATION AS THE NEWS STORY
1108
PROCESS A SUBMISSION FORM WHEN THE SUBMIT BANTER INDICATOR IS SELECTED
1110
DISPLAY AN AUDIO, A VIDEO, A PHOTO, AND/OR A BANTER COMMENT IN THE GEO-SPATIAL ENVIRONMENT
STOP

FIGURE 11

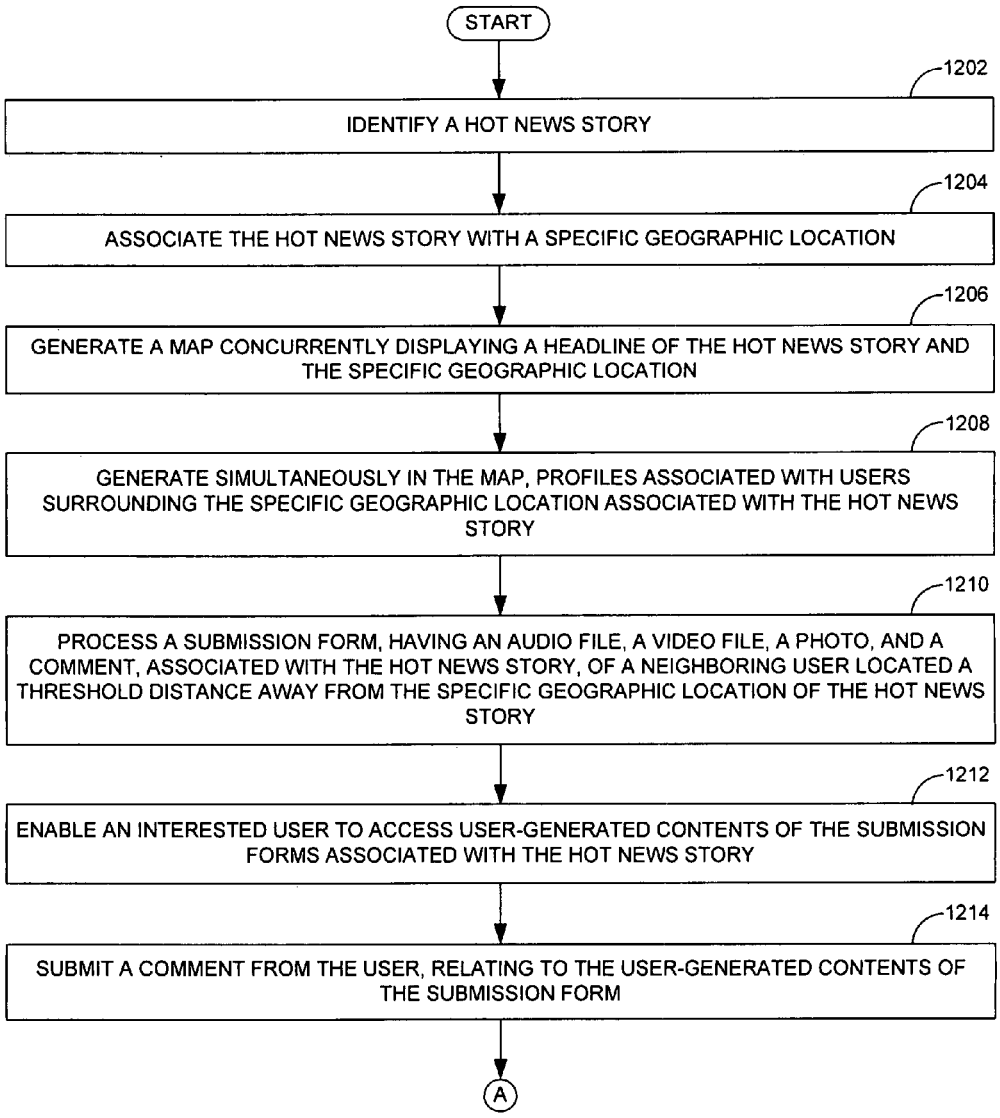

START
1202
IDENTIFY A HOT NEWS STORY
1204
ASSOCIATE THE HOT NEWS STORY WITH A SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION
1206
GENERATE A MAP CONCURRENTLY DISPLAYING A HEADLINE OF THE HOT NEWS STORY AND THE SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION
1208
GENERATE SIMULTANEOUSLY IN THE MAP, PROFILES ASSOCIATED WITH USERS SURROUNDING THE SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION ASSOCIATED WITH THE HOT NEWS STORY
1210
PROCESS A SUBMISSION FORM, HAVING AN AUDIO FILE, A VIDEO FILE, A PHOTO, AND A COMMENT, ASSOCIATED WITH THE HOT NEWS STORY, OF A NEIGHBORING USER LOCATED A THRESHOLD DISTANCE AWAY FROM THE SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF THE HOT NEWS STORY
1212
ENABLE AN INTERESTED USER TO ACCESS USER-GENERATED CONTENTS OF THE SUBMISSION FORMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE HOT NEWS STORY
1214
SUBMIT A COMMENT FROM THE USER, RELATING TO THE USER-GENERATED CONTENTS OF THE SUBMISSION FORM
A

FIGURE 12A

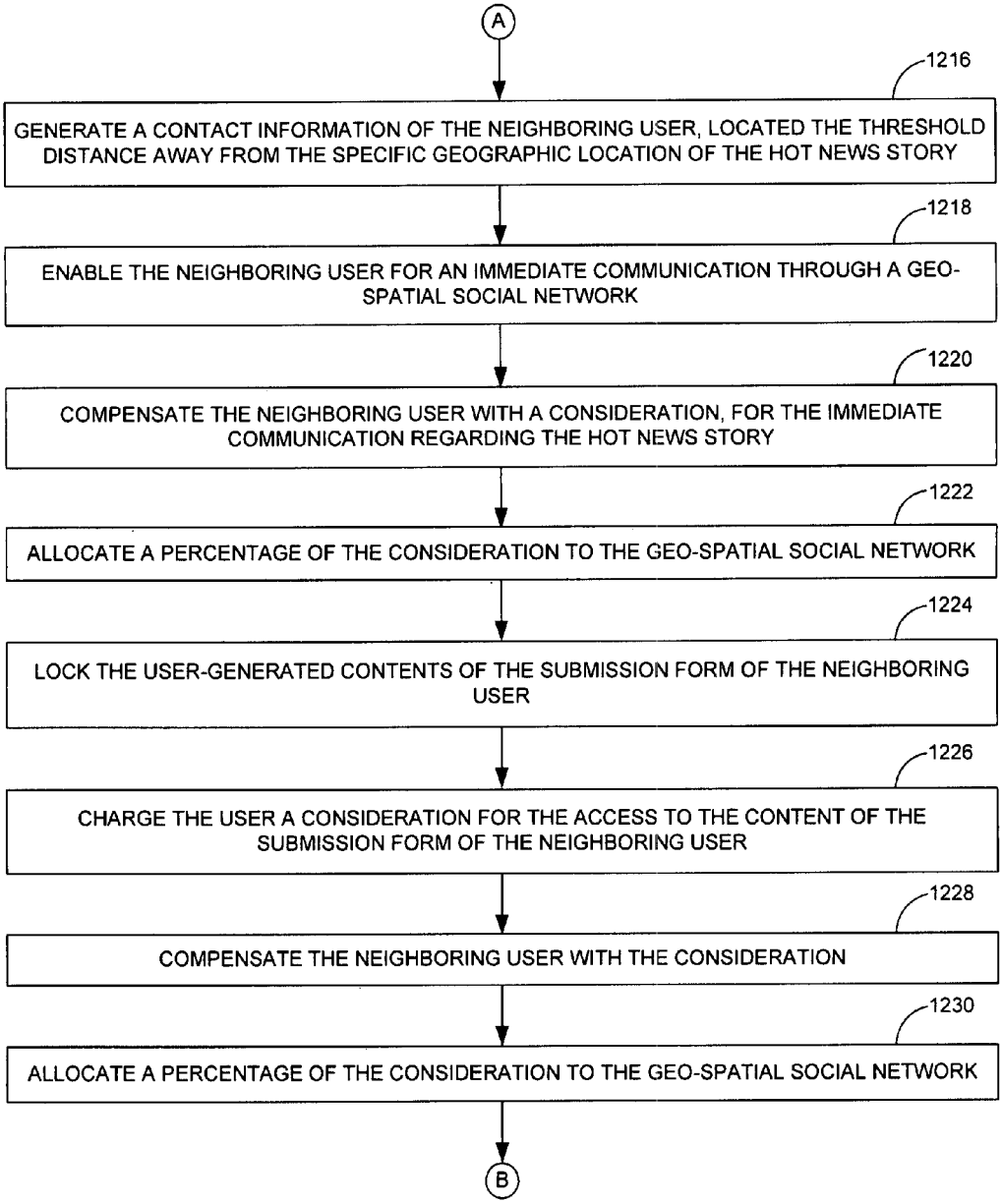

A
1216
GENERATE A CONTACT INFORMATION OF THE NEIGHBORING USER, LOCATED THE THRESHOLD DISTANCE AWAY FROM THE SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF THE HOT NEWS STORY
1218
ENABLE THE NEIGHBORING USER FOR AN IMMEDIATE COMMUNICATION THROUGH A GEO-SPATIAL SOCIAL NETWORK
1220
COMPENSATE THE NEIGHBORING USER WITH A CONSIDERATION, FOR THE IMMEDIATE COMMUNICATION REGARDING THE HOT NEWS STORY
1222
ALLOCATE A PERCENTAGE OF THE CONSIDERATION TO THE GEO-SPATIAL SOCIAL NETWORK
1224
LOCK THE USER-GENERATED CONTENTS OF THE SUBMISSION FORM OF THE NEIGHBORING USER
1226
CHARGE THE USER A CONSIDERATION FOR THE ACCESS TO THE CONTENT OF THE SUBMISSION FORM OF THE NEIGHBORING USER
1228
COMPENSATE THE NEIGHBORING USER WITH THE CONSIDERATION
1230
ALLOCATE A PERCENTAGE OF THE CONSIDERATION TO THE GEO-SPATIAL SOCIAL NETWORK
B

FIGURE 12B

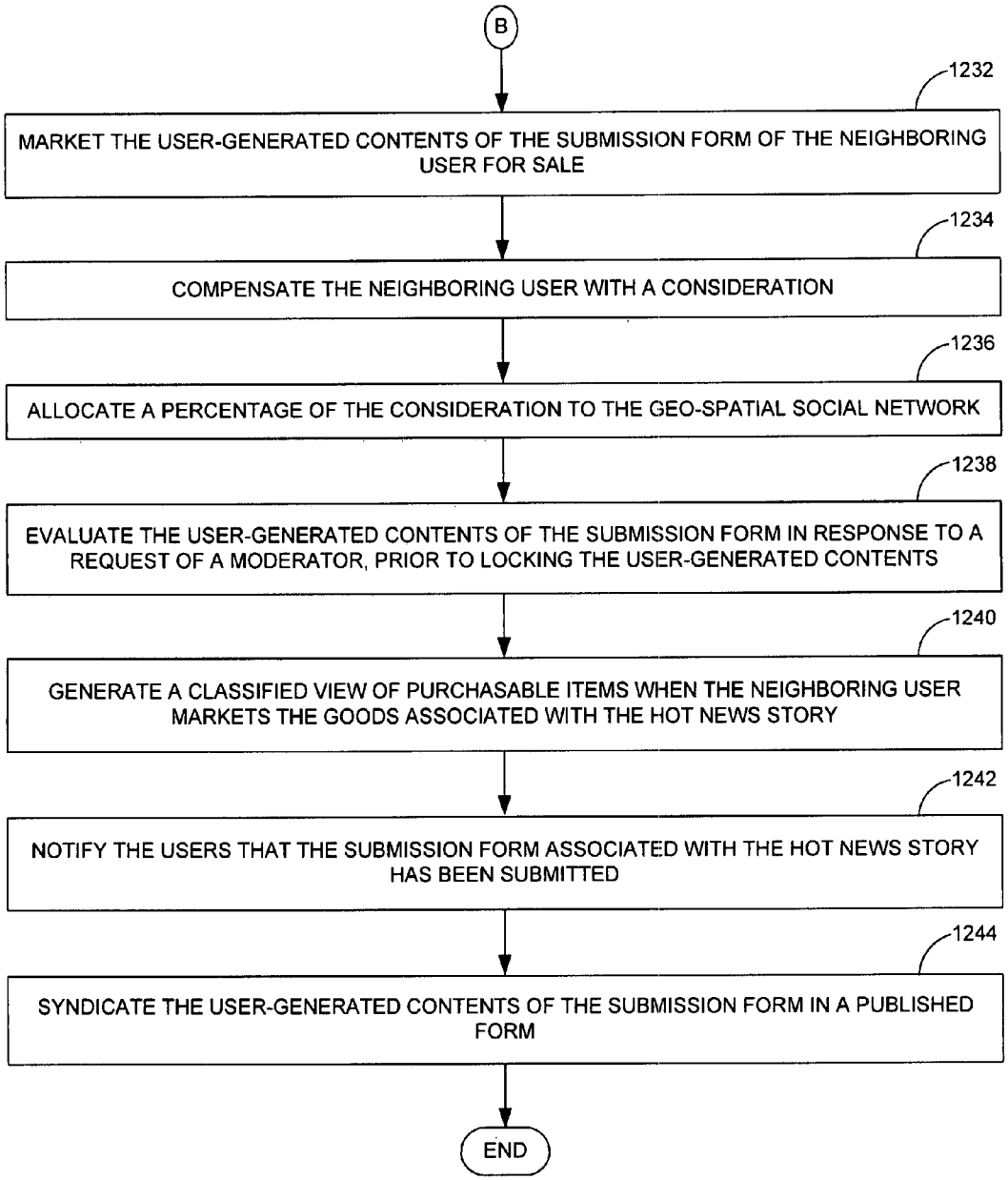

B
1232
MARKET THE USER-GENERATED CONTENTS OF THE SUBMISSION FORM OF THE NEIGHBORING USER FOR SALE
1234
COMPENSATE THE NEIGHBORING USER WITH A CONSIDERATION
1236
ALLOCATE A PERCENTAGE OF THE CONSIDERATION TO THE GEO-SPATIAL SOCIAL NETWORK
1238
EVALUATE THE USER-GENERATED CONTENTS OF THE SUBMISSION FORM IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST OF A MODERATOR, PRIOR TO LOCKING THE USER-GENERATED CONTENTS
1240
GENERATE A CLASSIFIED VIEW OF PURCHASABLE ITEMS WHEN THE NEIGHBORING USER MARKETS THE GOODS ASSOCIATED WITH THE HOT NEWS STORY
1242
NOTIFY THE USERS THAT THE SUBMISSION FORM ASSOCIATED WITH THE HOT NEWS STORY HAS BEEN SUBMITTED
1244
SYNDICATE THE USER-GENERATED CONTENTS OF THE SUBMISSION FORM IN A PUBLISHED FORM
END

FIGURE 12C

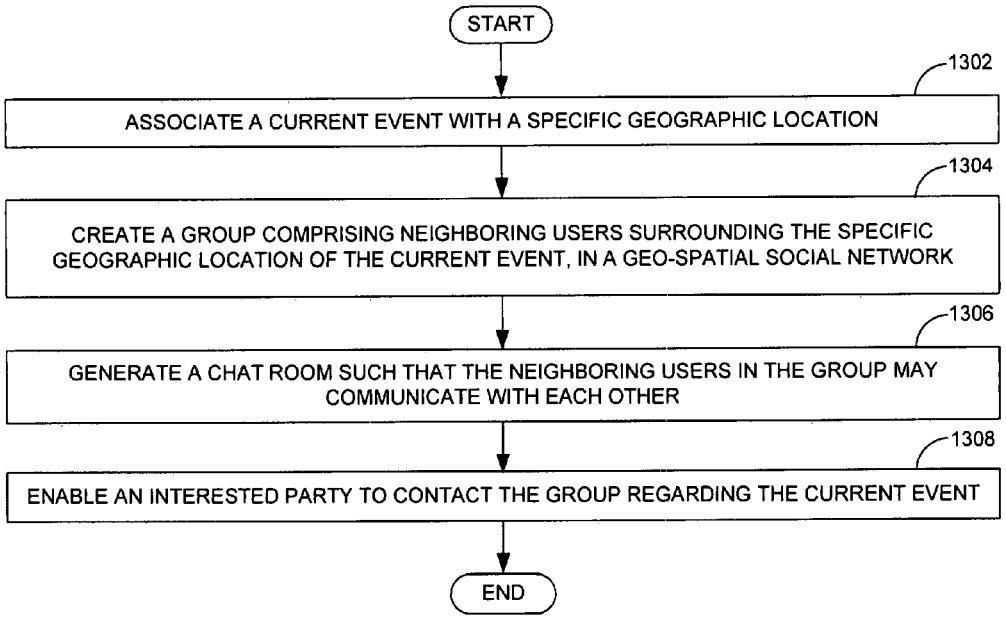

START
1302
ASSOCIATE A CURRENT EVENT WITH A SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION
1304
CREATE A GROUP COMPRISING NEIGHBORING USERS SURROUNDING THE SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF THE CURRENT EVENT, IN A GEO-SPATIAL SOCIAL NETWORK
1306
GENERATE A CHAT ROOM SUCH THAT THE NEIGHBORING USERS IN THE GROUP MAY COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER
1308
ENABLE AN INTERESTED PARTY TO CONTACT THE GROUP REGARDING THE CURRENT EVENT
END

FIGURE 13

# HOT NEWS NEIGHBORHOOD BANTER IN A GEO-SPATIAL SOCIAL NETWORK

## FIELD OF TECHNOLOGY

This disclosure relates generally to the technical fields of communications and, in one example embodiment, to a method and system of hot news neighborhood banter in a geo-spatial social network.

## BACKGROUND

A news story may be any information (e.g., discovery of a new element in periodic table, development in an important Supreme Court case, final score of Super Bowl, etc.) and/or current events (e.g., War in Iraq, March Madness, presidential elections, etc.). The news story may often be reported by a variety of sources (e.g., newspapers, television, radio programs, wire service, websites, etc.). A news reporter may investigate the news story and/or may try to cover at least one side of an issue.

The news reporter may contact a person close to the news story (e.g., eye witness, neighbor, etc.) to obtain information (e.g., eye-witness account, photos, videos, audio files, etc.) relevant to the news story. The news reporter may perceive the information differently than the person contacted and/or choose not to use it in the news story.

An interested party in the news story may want more information about the news story. The person close to the news story (e.g., a neighbor) may have information (e.g., comments, personal thoughts, video clips, etc.) regarding the news story, but may not be able to share this information with the interested party. The person may submit the information through internet and/or network technologies (e.g., web logs, chat rooms, message boards, etc.). However, the interested party may not be able to easily find this submitted information.

The news reporter (e.g., journalist, radio broadcaster, television anchorman, etc.) may not know whom to interview to obtain information relevant to the news story. The news reporter may be far from the location of the news story and/or may be unable to reach the location fast enough (e.g., traffic blocking the road, the location is too far away, the area is blocked off, etc. Hence, the news reporter may not be able to contact people close to the news story (e.g., neighbors, eye witnesses, etc.)

## SUMMARY

A method and system of hot news neighborhood banter in a geo-spatial social network are disclosed. In one aspect, a method includes identifying a hot news story, associating the hot news story with a specific geographic location, generating a map concurrently displaying a headline of the hot news story and the specific geographic location, and simultaneously generating in the map, profiles associated with a number of users surrounding the specific geographic location associated with the hot news story.

The method may further include processing a submission form, having an audio file, a video file, a photo, and/or a comment, associated with the hot news story, of a neighboring user located a threshold distance away from the specific geographic location of the hot news story. The method may also include enabling an interested user to access any number of user-generated contents of the submission forms associated with the hot news story, and submitting a comment from the user, relating to the user-generated contents of the submission form.

The method may yet include generating contact information of the neighboring user, located a threshold distance away from the specific geographic location of the hot news story. In addition, the method may include allowing the neighboring user for an immediate communication through a geo-spatial social network. The method may further include compensating the neighboring user with a consideration, for the immediate communication regarding the hot news story, and allocating a percentage of the consideration to the geo-spatial social network.

The method may also include locking the user-generated contents of the submission form of the neighboring user, charging the interested user a consideration for the access to the user-generated contents of the submission form of the neighboring user, compensating the neighboring user with the consideration, and allocating a percentage of the consideration to the geo-spatial social network.

The method may further include marketing the user-generated contents of the submission form of the neighboring user for sale, compensating the neighboring user with a consideration, and allocating a percentage of the consideration to the geo-spatial social network. The method may yet include evaluating the user-generated contents of the submission form in response to a request of a moderator, prior to locking the user-generated contents.

In addition, the method may include generating a classified view of purchasable items when the neighboring user markets goods associated with the hot news story. The method may also include notifying the users that the submission form associated with the hot news story has been submitted. The method may further include syndicating the user-generated contents of the submission form in a published media.

In another aspect, a method includes associating a current event with a specific geographic location, and creating a group consisting of a number of neighboring users surrounding the specific geographic location of the current event, in a geo-spatial social network. The method may further include generating a chat room such that the neighboring users in the group may communicate with each other. The method may also include enabling an interested party (e.g., may compensate the geo-spatial social network for access to a contact information of the group) to contact the group regarding the current event.

In yet another aspect, a system includes a news provider module to determine a hot news story associated with a specific geographic location and the specific geographic location, a hot news module to display the hot news story associated with the geographic location on a map, and a geo-spatial environment to process user-generated content associated with the hot news story. The system may further include a submission module to compile the user-generated content associated with the hot news story from a number of neighboring users surrounding the specific geographic location of the hot news story.

The system may also include a communication module to process correspondences between the neighboring users and other users regarding the hot news story. In addition, the system may include a finance module to allocate and/or distribute compensation from an interested user for access to the user-generated content associated with the hot new story and/or an immediate communication with the neighboring users.

The methods, systems, and apparatuses disclosed herein may be implemented in any means for achieving various aspects, and may be executed in a form of a machine-readable

medium embodying a set of instructions that, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform any of the operations disclosed herein. Other features will be apparent from the accompanying drawings and from the detailed description that follows.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Example embodiments are illustrated by way of example and not limitation in the figures of the accompanying drawings, in which like references indicate similar elements and in which:

FIG. **1** is a process view of a hot news story published through a number of methods, according to one embodiment.

FIG. **2** is a system view of a geo-spatial environment communicating with neighborhood(s) of hot news locations through a network, according to one embodiment.

FIG. **3** is an exploded view of the publication module of FIG. **2**, according to one embodiment.

FIG. **4** is system view of the geo-spatial environment communicating with client devices through a network, according to one embodiment.

FIG. **5** is a table view of user contact details, according to one embodiment.

FIG. **6** is a user interface view of the display module of FIG. **2**, according to one embodiment.

FIG. **7** is a user interface view of the banter module of FIG. **3**, according to one embodiment.

FIG. **8** is a diagrammatic system view of a data processing system in which any of the embodiments disclosed herein may be performed, according to one embodiment.

FIG. **9** is a user interface view of a hot news map illustrating neighborhood banter, according to one embodiment.

FIG. **10** is a user interface view of a hot news map illustrating neighborhood collectibles for sale, according to one embodiment.

FIG. **11** is a process flow of generating, submitting, and displaying a user, generated content in the geo-spatial environment, according to one embodiment.

FIG. **12**A is a process flow of the hot news module of FIG. **2**, according to one embodiment.

FIG. **12**B is a continuation of the process flow of FIG. **12**A, showing additional processes, according to one embodiment.

FIG. **12**C is a continuation of the process flow of FIG. **12**B, showing additional processes, according to one embodiment.

FIG. **13** is a process flow of an interested part contacting a group consisting of neighboring users surrounding a hot news location, according to one embodiment.

Other features of the present embodiments will be apparent from the accompanying drawings and from the description that follows.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

A method and system of hot news neighborhood banter in a geo-spatial social network are disclosed. In the following description, for the purposes of explanation, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide a thorough understanding of the various embodiments. It will be evident, however to one skilled in the art that the various embodiments may be practiced without these specific details.

In one embodiment, a method includes identifying (e.g., using the news provider module **206** FIG. **2**) a hot news story, (e.g., the hot news **102** of FIG. **1**) associating the hot news story **102** with a specific geographic location (e.g., the hot news location **222** of FIG. **2**), generating a map concurrently displaying (e.g., using the hot news module **208** of FIG. **2**) a headline of the hot news story **102** and the specific geographic location **222**, and simultaneously generating in the map, profiles associated with users (e.g., the neighboring users **228**A-N of FIG. **2**) surrounding the specific geographic location **222** associated with the hot news story **102**.

In another embodiment, a method includes associating a current event (e.g., the hot news **102** of FIG. **1**) with a specific geographic location (e.g., the hot news location **222** of FIG. **2**), and creating a group of neighboring users (e.g., the neighboring users **228**A-N of FIG. **2**) surrounding the specific geographic location **222** of the current event (e.g., the hot news **102**) in a geo-spatial social network (e.g., of the geo-spatial environment **150** illustrated in FIG. **1**).

In yet another embodiment, a system includes a news provider module (e.g., the news provider module **206** of FIG. **2**) to determine a hot news story (e.g., the hot news **102** of FIG. **1**) associated with a specific geographic location (e.g., the hot news location **222** of FIG. **2**) and the specific geographic location **222**, a hot news module (e.g., the hot news module **208** of FIG. **2**) to display the hot news story **102** associated with the specific geographic location **222** on a map, and a geo-spatial environment **150** to process user-generated contents (e.g., the user-generated contents **152** of FIG. **1**) associated with the hot news story **102**.

FIG. **1** is a process view of a hot news story **102** published through a number of methods, according to one embodiment. Particularly, FIG. **1** illustrates a hot news **102**, an eye witness **104**, a police report **106**, a word of mouth **108**, a journalist **110**, captures content **112**, a published syndication **114**, a television **116**, a radio **118**, a news paper **120**, a neighborhood **122**, neighboring users **124**A-N, a neighboring eyewitness **126**, a geo-spatial environment **150**, user-generated contents **152** and a user-generated publication **154**, according to one embodiment.

The hot news **102** may be any new information associated with events which are relayed through print (e.g., the news paper **120** of FIG. **1**), broadcast (e.g., through the television **116** of FIG. **1**), internet, and/or word of mouth **108** to a third party (e.g., the public). The eye witness **104** may be a source of first-hand knowledge (e.g., acquired through senses such as seeing, hearing, touching and/or smelling) about the hot news **102**. The police report **106** may be a document submitted by the neighboring users **124**A-N describing the hot news **102** in the neighborhood **122**. The word of mouth **108** may be passing of information associated with the hot news **102** through verbal means (e.g., spoken communication) to an interested user (e.g., the journalist **110** of FIG. **1**).

The journalist **110** may be a person interested in accessing and communicating (e.g., broadcasting through the television **116** and the radio **118**, and/or publishing through the news paper **120**) the hot news **102** in the neighborhood **122**. The captures content **112** may be a process of syndicating the information associated with the hot news **102** acquired from the eye witness **104**, the police report **106** and/or the word of mouth **108**. The neighborhood **122** may correspond to a localized community which includes a specific geographic location (e.g., the hot news location **222** of FIG. **2**) associated with the hot news **102** and the neighboring users **124**A-N.

The neighboring users **124**A-N may be individuals surrounding (e.g., living close to) the hot news location **222**. The neighboring eyewitness **126** may be an entity having the first hand knowledge associated with the hot news **102**. The geo-spatial environment **150** may process the user-generated contents **152** associated with the hot news **102**. The user-generated contents **152** may be content provided by the neighboring users **124**A-N surrounding the hot news **102** to the geo-spatial environment **150**. The user-generated publi-

cation **154** may be a published form of the user-generated contents **152** submitted by the neighboring users **124**A-N associated with the hot news **102** in the geo-spatial environment **150**.

In the example embodiment illustrated in FIG. **1**, the neighboring users **124**A-N may be individuals located in a vicinity of the hot news location **222**. The journalist **110** may access information associated with the hot news **102** directly from the neighboring users **124**A-N, who have some information about the hot news **102**. The journalist **110** may collect the information regarding the hot news **102** through multiple sources such as the eye witness **104**, the police report **106** and/or the word of mouth **108**. The journalist **110** may publish the collected information in the television **116**, the radio **118** and/or news paper **120** as illustrated.

In another example embodiment illustrated in FIG. **1**, the journalist **110** may access the information related to the hot news **102** uploaded by the neighboring users **124**A-N through the geo-spatial environment **150**. The geo-spatial environment **150** may enable the neighboring users **124**A-N to submit the user-generated contents **152** in the geo-spatial environment **150**. The journalist **110** may access the user-generated contents **152** through the user-generated publication **154** submitted to the geo-spatial environment **150**. The geo-spatial environment **150** may enable communication between the neighboring users **124**A-N surrounding the hot news location **222** and the journalist **110** who is interested in hot news **102**. The journalist **110** may communicate with the neighboring users **124**A-N regarding the hot news **102** through the geo-spatial environment **150**. The journalist **110** may capture (e.g., store, record, track, etc.) information associated with the hot news **102** and/or syndicate the information in the television **116**, the radio **118** and/or the news paper **120**.

FIG. **2** is a system view of the geo-spatial environment **150** communicating with neighborhoods **202**A-N of a hot news location **222** through a network **204**, according to one embodiment. Particularly, FIG. **2** illustrates the geo-spatial environment **150**, the neighborhoods **202**A-N, the network **204**, a news provider module **206**, a hot news module **208**, a feed module **210**, a display module **212**, a publication module **214**, a communication module **216**, a contact database **218**, a finance module **220**, the hot news location **222**, a residence **224**, an interested user **226** and neighboring users **228**A-N, according to one embodiment.

The geo-spatial environment **150** may process a submission form associated with the hot news story (e.g., the hot news **102** of FIG. **1**), submitted by the neighboring users **228**A-N. For example, the submission form may include an audio file, a video file, a photo, an article, and/or a comment, related to the hot news story **102**. The geo-spatial environment **150** may also enable the interested user **226** (e.g., the journalist **110** of FIG. **1**) to access user-generated contents (e.g., the user-generated contents **152** of FIG. **1**) associated with hot news story **102** having the hot news location **222** through the network **204**. The neighborhoods **202**A-N may correspond to a geographical region associated with the hot news location **222**.

The neighborhoods **202**A-N may include the interested user **226**, the neighboring users **228**A-N, the residence **224**, businesses, organizations, etc. The network **204** may facilitate communication between the geo-spatial environment **150** and users (e.g., the neighboring users **228**A-N and the interested user **226** of FIG. **2**) of the neighborhoods **202**A-N of the hot news location **222**. The news provider module **206** may determine the hot news story **102** associated with the hot news location **222**. For example, the news provider module **206** may display the hot news location **222** on a geo-spatial map (e.g., the geo-spatial map **620** of FIG. **6**) using a news database (e.g., the news database **310** of FIG. **3**).

The hot news module **208** may concomitantly display a headline of the hot news story **102** and the hot news location **222** associated with the hot news story **102** on the geo-spatial map **620**. The feed module **210** may enable the neighboring users **228**A-N to submit contents (e.g., title, location, audio file, video file, etc.) associated with the hot news story **102** having the hot news location **222** to the geo-spatial social network. The display module **212** may display the user-generated contents **152** associated with the hot news story **102** submitted by the neighboring users **228**A-N on the geo-spatial map **620**. The publication module **214** may syndicate the user-generated contents **152** of a submission form in a published media (e.g., the television, the radio, and/or the news paper).

The communication module **216** may process correspondences (e.g., email, communication, post, letters, IM, etc.) between the neighboring users **228**A-N and the interested user **226** regarding the hot news story **102** in the geo-spatial environment **150**. The contact database **218** may consist of contact details (e.g., user name, principal address, e-mail, contact telephone number, etc.) of neighboring users **228**A-N in the geo-spatial environment **150**. The finance module **220** may process a fee based transaction associated with accessing the user-generated contents **152** of the hot news story **102**, for immediate communication with the neighboring users **228**A-N, and/or marketing the user-generated contents **152** of the neighboring users **228**A-N. The finance module **220** may distribute revenue amount among the neighboring users **228**A-N and the geo-spatial social network.

The hot news location **222** may be a specific geographic location associated with the hot news story **102** in the neighborhoods **202**A-N. The residence **224** may be a physical location (e.g., home, residential apartment, etc.) associated with the interested user **226** in the neighborhoods **202**A-N. The interested user **226** may be an individual (e.g., journalist, police, reporter, etc.) who wishes to access the user-generated contents **152** published in the geo-spatial environment **150**. The neighboring users **228**A-N may be users residing in close proximity of the hot news location **222** associated with the hot news story **102**.

In the example embodiment illustrated in FIG. **2**, the geo-spatial environment **150** communicates with the neighborhoods **202**A-N and the news provider module **206** through the network **204**. The neighborhoods **202**A-N consists of the residence **224** associated with the interested user **226**, the neighboring users **228**A-N, and the hot news location **222**. The interested user **226** may communicate with the neighboring users **228**A-N regarding the hot news story **102** through the network **204** using the geo-spatial environment **150**. The interested user **226** may communicate with the neighboring users **228**A-N using messages, instant messages, emails, voice calls, etc. The geo-spatial environment **150** includes the hot news module **208** which consists of the feed module **210**, the display module **212**, the publication module **214**, the communication module **216**, the contact database **218**, and the finance module **220** interacting with each other.

A hot news story (e.g., the hot news **102** of FIG. **1**) may be identified (e.g., using the news provider module **206** of FIG. **2**). The hot news story **102** may be associated with a specific geographic location (e.g., the hot news location **222** of FIG. **2**). A map (e.g., the geo-spatial map **620** of FIG. **6**) concurrently displaying a headline of the hot news story **102** and the specific geographic location **222** may be generated (e.g., using the hot news module **208** of FIG. **2**). Profiles associated

with the neighboring users **228**A-N surrounding the specific geographic location **222** associated with the hot news story **102** may be simultaneously displayed in the map.

The interested user **226** may be enabled to access user-generated contents **152** of submission form associated with the hot news story **102**. A comment from the interested user **226**, relating to the user-generated contents **152** of the submission form may be submitted. Contact information of the neighboring users **228**A-N, located the threshold distance away from the specific geographic location **222** of the hot news story **102** may be generated (e.g., using the contact database **218** of FIG. **2**-**4**).

A classified view of purchasable items may be generated when the neighboring users **228**A-N markets goods associated with the hot news story **102**. The users (e.g., the users **400** of FIG. **4**) may be notified (e.g., using the hot news module **208** of FIG. **2**) that the submission form associated with the hot news story **102** has been submitted. A current event (e.g., the hot news **102** of FIG. **1**) may be associated with a specific geographic location (e.g., the hot news location **222** of FIG. **2**). A group including neighboring users **228**A-N surrounding the specific geographic location **222** of the current event (e.g., the hot news **102**) may be created in a geo-spatial social network.

The news provider module **206** may determine the hot news story **102** and the specific geographic location **222** associated with the hot news story **102**. The hot news module **208** may display the hot news story **102** associated with the specific geographic location **222** on a map (e.g., the geo-spatial map **620** of FIG. **6**). The geo-spatial environment **150** may process the user-generated contents **152** associated with the hot news story **102**. The communication module **216** may process correspondences between the neighboring users **228**A-N and other users (e.g., the interested user **226** of FIG. **2** and/or the users **400** of FIG. **4**) regarding the hot news story **102**. The finance module **220** may allocate and distribute compensation from an interested user **226** (e.g., the reader user **400**B, the journalist user **400**C, and the reporter user **400**N of FIG. **4**) for accessing the user-generated contents **152** associated with the hot news story **102** and/or an immediate communication with the neighboring users **228**A-N.

FIG. **3** is an exploded view of the publication module **214** of FIG. **2**, according to one embodiment. Particularly, FIG. **3** illustrates a submission module **300**, a wiki module **302**, an audio module **304**, a video module **306**, a photo module **308**, a news database **310** and a banter module **312**, according to one embodiment.

The submission module **300** may compile the user-generated contents **152** (e.g., audio file, video file, photo, comment, etc.) of a submission form associated with the hot news story **102** provided by the neighboring users **228**A-N to the geo-spatial social network. The wiki module **302** may enable users (e.g., the interested user **226**) to create and/or edit a wiki information on any event (e.g., the hot news story **102** of FIG. **1**) associated with a specific geographic location (e.g., the hot news location **222** of FIG. **2**).

The audio module **304** may process audio files of the submission form associated with the hot news story **102**. The video module **306** may enable uploading and/or retrieving of information relating to video files of the submission form associated with the hot news story **102**. The photo module **308** may process photographic images of the submission form associated with the hot news story **102**. The news database **310** may contain the user-generated contents **152** (e.g., audio files, video files, and/or photos) and specific geographic locations (e.g., the hot news location **222** of FIG. **2**) associated with hot news story **102** in the geo-spatial environment **150**.

The banter module **312** may generate a chat room in which, the neighboring users **228**A-N surrounding the hot news location **222** communicate with each other regarding the hot news story **102** in the geo-spatial environment **150**.

In the example embodiment illustrated in the FIG. **3**, the submission module **300** communicates with the wiki module **302**, the audio module **304**, the video module **306**, the photo module **308**, the news database **310** and the banter module **312** interacting with each other.

A submission form (e.g., having audio file, video file, photo, and/or comment) associated with the hot news story **102**, of a neighboring users **228**A-N located a threshold distance away from the specific geographic location **222** of the hot news story **102** may be processed (e.g., using the submission module **300** of FIG. **3**). The user-generated contents **152** of the submission form may be syndicated (e.g., using the publication module **214** of FIG. **2**) in a published media.

A chat room may be generated (e.g., using the banter module **312** of FIG. **3**) such that the neighboring users **228**A-N in the group may communicate with each other. The submission module **300** may compile the user-generated contents **152** associated with the hot news story **102** from the neighboring users **228**A-N surrounding the specific geographic location **222** of the hot news story **102**.

FIG. **4** is a system view of the geo-spatial environment **150** communicating with client devices **402**A-N through a network **404** (e.g., the internet), according to one embodiment. Particularly, FIG. **4** illustrates the geo-spatial environment **150**, the contact database **218**, the finance module **220**, users **400**, a submitter user **400**A, a reader user **400**B, a journalist user **400**C, a reporter user **400**N, the client devices **402**A-N and the network **404**, according to one embodiment.

The users **400** may be individuals using the geo-spatial social network for submitting, accessing and/or retrieving the user-generated contents **152** associated with the hot news story **102**. The users **400** may correspond to the submitter user **400**A, the reader user **400**B, the journalist user **400**C and/or the reporter user **400**N associated with the geo-spatial social network. The client devices **402**A-N may enable processing and/or retrieving of the user-generated contents **152** associated with the hot news story **102** by the users **400** using the network **404** in the geo-spatial environment **150**. The network **404** may facilitate communication between the users **400** having the client devices **402**A-N and the geo-spatial environment **150**.

In the example embodiment illustrated in FIG. **4**, the users **400** communicate with the geo-spatial environment **150** through the client devices **402**A-N. The geo-spatial environment **150** includes the contact database **218** and the finance module **220** communicating with each other. For example, the reader user **400**B, the journalist user **400**C and/or the reporter user **400**N may access contact information of the submitter user **400**A for immediate communication through the contact database **218** of the geo-spatial environment **150**. In addition, the reader user **400**B, the journalist user **400**C and/or the reporter user **400**N may compensate the submitter user **400**A and the geo-spatial social network for the immediate communication through the finance module **220**.

The neighboring users **228**A-N (e.g., the submitter user **400**A of FIG. **4**) may be allowed (e.g., through the communication module **216** of FIG. **2**) for an immediate communication through a geo-spatial social network regarding the hot news story **102**. The neighboring users **228**A-N may be compensated (e.g., using the finance module **220** of FIG. **2**-**4**) with a consideration for the immediate communication regarding the hot news story **102**. A percentage of the consideration may

be allocated to the geo-spatial social network (e.g., through the finance module **220** of FIG. **2**).

The user-generated contents **152** of the submission form of the neighboring users **228**A-N may be marketed for sale. The neighboring users **228**A-N may be compensated with a consideration. A percentage of the consideration may be allocated to the geo-spatial social network. An interested party (e.g., the reader user **400**B, the journalist user **400**C and/or the reporter user **400**N of FIG. **4**) may be enabled to contact the group regarding the current event (e.g., the hot news **102** of FIG. **1**). The interested party (e.g., the interested user **226** of FIG. **2**) may compensate the geo-spatial social network for access to contact information of a group. For example, the group may include neighboring users **228**A-N surrounding the hot news location **222** in the geo-spatial environment **150**.

FIG. **5** is a table view of user contact details, according to one embodiment. Particularly, FIG. **5** illustrates a user field **500**, a proximity field **502**, a principal address field **504**, an e-mail field **506**, a publication type field **508**, an instant message field **510** and a contact number field **512**, according to one embodiment.

The user field **500** may represent names of neighboring users **228**A-N who have submitted user-generated contents (e.g., the user-generated contents **152** of FIG. **1**) associated with the hot news story **102** to the geo-spatial environment **150**. The proximity field **502** may represent a geographic proximity between neighboring users **228**A-N and the hot news location **222**. The principal address field **504** may display address data associated with the neighboring users **228**A-N surrounding the hot news location **222** in the geo-spatial environment **150**. The e-mail field **506** displays e-mail addresses associated with the neighboring users **228**A-N of the user field **500** through which the interested user **226** may communicate with the neighboring users **228**A-N regarding the hot news story **102**.

The publication type field **508** may display the type of the user-generated contents **152** (e.g., video, audio, photo, banter, etc.) submitted by the neighboring users **228**A-N to the geo-spatial social network. The instant message field **510** may display instant messages sent by the interested user **226**. The contact number field **512** may display the contact number (e.g., mobile number, land line number, etc.) associated with the neighboring users **228**A-N of the user field **500**.

In the example embodiment illustrated in the FIG. **5**, the user field **500** displays "John Smith" in first row, "Bill Harris" in second row, "Victor Drazen" in third row, "Chloe O'Hare" in fourth row and "Steve Lowry" in fifth row of the user field column **500**. The proximity field **502** displays "Same Street" in the first row which represents that John Smith is located in the same street associated with the hot news location **222**. The proximity field **502** also displays "1 Mile" in the second row which indicates Bill Harris is located 1 mile away from the hot news location **222**. The proximity field **502** also displays "Next Door" in the third row which indicates Victor Drazen is a next door neighbor of the hot news location **222** associated with the hot news story **102**. Similarly, the proximity field **502** displays "¼ Mile" in the fourth row and "½ Mile" in the fifth row of the proximity field column **502** which indicates the proximity between neighboring users (e.g., Chloe O'Hare and Steve Lowry) and the hot news location **222**.

The principal address field **504** displays "222 Tulane RD." in the first row representing address data associated with John Smith, and "643 Sunrise DR." in the second row representing address data associated with Bill Harris. Similarly, the principal address field **504** also displays "386 Tulane RD." in the third row, "99 Hami AVE." in the fourth row and "64 Canyon CT." in the fifth row of the principal address field column **504**.

The e-mail field **506** displays an e-mail address of John Smith "j.smith@moo.com" in the first row, an e-mail address of Bill Harris "billthekid@ash.com" in the second row, an e-mail address of Victor Drazen "24drazen@foxx.com" in the third row, an e-mail address of Chloe O'Hare "sirrom@ctu.edu" in the fourth row and an e-mail address of Steve Lowry "steve@cba.com" in the fifth row of the e-mail field column **506**.

The publication type field **508** displays a "Video clip" associated with the hot news story **102** uploaded by John Smith in the first row, "Banter" submitted by Bill Harris in the second row, "Banter" submitted by Victor Drazen in the third row, "Audio" submitted by Chloe O'Hare in the fourth row and a "Photo" Submitted by Steve Lowry in the fifth row of the publication type field column **508**.

The instant message field **510** displays "N/A" in the first row which indicates John Smith may not be available for immediate communication. The instant message field **510** also displays "Bill Harris" in the second row (e.g., the IM chat between Bill Harris and an interested user **226**). The instant message field **510** also displays "N/A" in the third row (e.g., the IM chat between Victor Drazen and an interested user **226**). Similarly, the instant message field **510** displays "N/A" in the fourth row and "N/A" in the fifth row of the instant message field column **510** (e.g., Chloe O'Hare and Steve Lowry are not available for communication).

The contact number field **512** displays "N/A" in the first row which indicates John Smith may not be available for telephonic conversation regarding the hot news story **102**. The contact number field **512** displays "926-743-8527" in the second row which indicates Bill Harris may be available for telephonic conversation through the displayed contact number regarding the hot news story **102**. Similarly, the contact number field **512** displays "926-743-1126" in the third row indication contact information of Victor Drazen, "N/A" in the fourth row and "N/A" in the fifth row of the contact number field column **512**.

FIG. **6** is a user interface view **600** of the display module **212** of FIG. **2**, according to one embodiment. Particularly, FIG. **6** illustrates a title block **602**, a block **604**, a news articles option **606**, a neighborhood banter option **608**, a photos option **610**, an audio files option **612**, a videos option **614**, a submit entry option **616**, a contact neighbor option **618** and a geo-spatial map **620**, according to one embodiment.

The title block **602** may display a headline of a hot news story **102** on the geo-spatial map **620**. The block **604** may display an image related to the hot news story **102** submitted by neighboring users **228**A-N. The news articles option **606** may enable the interested user **226** to access articles associated with the hot news story **102**. The neighborhood banter option **608** may enable the neighboring users **228**A-N to submit comments associated with the hot news story **102**. The photos option **610** may enable the neighboring users **228**A-N to upload the photographic images associated with the hot news story **102**.

The audio files option **612** may enable the neighboring users **228**A-N to upload audio data (e.g., an audio file) associated with the hot news story **102**. The videos option **614** may enable the neighboring users **228**A-N to upload video data associated with the hot news story **102**. The submit entry option **616** may enable the neighboring users **228**A-N to submit user-generated contents **152** (e.g., photos, audio files, and/or videos) to the geo-spatial social network. The contact neighbor option **618** may enable the interested user **226** (e.g., the reader user **400**B, the journalist user **400**C and/or the reporter user **400**N of FIG. **4**) to contact the neighboring users **228**A-N surrounding the hot news location **222** regarding the

hot news story **102**. The geo-spatial map **620** may display the hot news location **222** associated with the hot news story **102** in a neighborhood (e.g., the neighborhoods **202**A-N of FIG. **2**).

In the example embodiment illustrated in the FIG. **6**, the user interface view **600** displays a headline "Peyton Manning wins MVP" associated with the hot news story **102** in the title block **602**, and "an image" in the block **604** related to the hot news story **102**. For example, the user interface view **600** also displays content published in magazines, newspapers, academic journals, and/or internet in the news articles option **606**. The contact neighbor option **618** may enable the neighboring users **228**A-N for immediate communication regarding the hot news story **102**. The user interface view **600** also displays the user-generated contents **152** submitted by neighboring users **228**A-N regarding the hot news story **102**.

FIG. **7** is a user interface view **700** of the banter module **312** of FIG. **3**, according to one embodiment. Particularly, FIG. **7** illustrates a headline block **702**, a block **704**, a neighborhood entry option **706**, a hot news tab **708**, an other hot news option **710**, an archives option **712**, a find your local news option **714** and a homepage **716**, according to one embodiment.

The headline block **702** may display a headline of a hot news story (e.g., the hot news **102** of FIG. **1**) associated with a specific geographic location (e.g., the hot news location **222** of FIG. **2**). The block **704** may display an image related to the hot news story **102**, submitted by the neighboring users **228**A-N surrounding the hot news location **222**. The neighborhood entry option **706** may enable the interested user **226** to communicate with the neighboring users **228**A-N surrounding the hot news location **222** regarding the hot news story **102**. The hot news tab **708** may enable the interested user **226** to access user-generated contents (e.g., the user-generated contents **152** of FIG. **1**) associated with the hot news story **102**.

The other hot news option **710** may enable the interested user **226** to access the user-generated contents **152** of other news in the geo-spatial environment **150**. The archives option **712** may contain archived records associated with a number of hot news stories. The find your local news option **714** may enable the interested user **226** to view news associated with a particular region (e.g., street, city, country, etc.). For example, the interested user **226** may access the find your local news option **714** to view latest news around his/her neighborhood (e.g., the neighborhoods **202**A-N of FIG. **2**) area through the geo-spatial social network. The homepage **716** may enable the interested user **226** to search one or more hot news stories through the geo-spatial social network.

In the example embodiment illustrated in the FIG. **7**, the user interface view displays the headline "Colts win super bowl" associated with the hot news story **102**. The neighborhood entry option **706** displays "Congratulations Peyton, your neighbor" conveying a congratulating message to Peyton by his neighbor. The block **704** displays photographs of "Rugby Ball" and "Player Jersey" associated with the hot news story **102**. The user may enable to search for the user-generated contents **152** through the homepage **716** using the geo-spatial social network.

FIG. **8** is a diagrammatic system view **800** of a data processing system in which any of the embodiments disclosed herein may be performed, according to one embodiment. Particularly, the diagrammatic system view **800** of FIG. **8** illustrates a processor **802**, a main memory **804**, a static memory **806**, a bus **808**, a video display **810**, an alpha-numeric input device **812**, a cursor control device **814**, a drive unit **816**, a signal generation device **818**, a network interface device **820**, a machine readable medium **822**, instructions **824** and a network **826**, according to one embodiment.

The diagrammatic system view **800** may indicate a personal computer and/or a data processing system in which one or more operations disclosed herein are performed. The processor **802** may be microprocessor, a state machine, an application specific integrated circuit, a field programmable gate array, etc. (e.g., Intel® Pentium® processor). The main memory **804** may be a dynamic random access memory and/or a primary memory of a computer system.

The static memory **806** may be a hard drive, a flash drive, and/or other memory information associated with the data processing system. The bus **808** may be an interconnection between various circuits and/or structures of the data processing system. The video display **810** may provide graphical representation of information on the data processing system. The alpha-numeric input device **812** may be a keypad, keyboard and/or any other input device of text (e.g., special device to aid the physically handicapped). The cursor control device **814** may be a pointing device such as a mouse.

The drive unit **816** may be a hard drive, a storage system, and/or other longer term storage subsystem. The signal generation device **818** may be a bios and/or a functional operating system of the data processing system. The network interface device **820** may be a device that may perform interface functions such as code conversion, protocol conversion and/or buffering required for communication to and from a network. The machine readable medium **822** may provide instructions on which any of the methods disclosed herein may be performed. The instructions **824** may provide source code and/or data code to the processor **802** to enable any one/or more operations disclosed herein.

FIG. **9** is a user interface view **900** of a hot news map illustrating neighborhood banter, according to one embodiment. Particularly, FIG. **9** illustrates a hot news location **902**, neighboring users **904**A-C, wiki profiles **906**A-C, a neighborhood banter entry link **908**A-C and a neighborhood **910**, according to one embodiment.

The hot news location **902** may represent a specific geographic location associated with a hot news story (e.g., the hot news **102** of FIG. **1**) in the geo-spatial environment **150**. The neighboring users **904**A-C may be individuals surrounding (e.g., located in the vicinity of) the hot news location **902**. The wiki profiles **906**A-C may be profiles associated with the neighboring users **904**A-C surrounding the hot news location **902**. For example, the wiki profiles **906**A-C may be created by the users (e.g., the users **400** of FIG. **4**) of the geo-spatial social network. The neighborhood banter entry link **908**A-C may enable the interested user (e.g., the reader user **400**B, the journalist user **400**C, and/or the reporter user **400**N of FIG. **4**) to access contents (e.g., video file, audio file, news articles, etc.) submitted by the neighboring users **904**A-C regarding the hot news story **102**.

The neighborhood banter entry link **908**A-C may also enable the neighboring users **904**A-C to market goods (e.g., autographed football of a football player, goods related to a crime, monuments, etc.) associated with hot news story **102** of the hot news location **902**. The neighborhood **910** may be a geographically localized community which includes the hot news location **902**, the neighboring users **904**A-C surrounding the hot news location **902**, located within a larger city, town and/or suburb.

In the example embodiment illustrated in FIG. **9**, the user interface view **900** of the hot news map displays the wiki profile(s) **906**A-C associated with the neighboring users **904**A-C surrounding the hot news location **902** (e.g., Peyton Manning's house) in the hot news map. The wiki profile(s)

906A-C displays profile information (e.g., name, photo, address, etc.) of the neighboring users 904A-C and user-generated content (e.g., video files, audio files, articles, blogs, etc.) related to the hot news story 102.

The neighborhood banter entry link 908A-C displayed in the hot news map may enable the neighboring users 904A-C (e.g., John Smith, John Doe, Chris Henderson associated with the wiki profile(s) 906A-C) to communicate (e.g., using email, IM, SMS, mobile, etc.) with each other regarding the hot news story 102 associated with the hot news location 902.

FIG. 10 is a user interface view 1000 of a hot news map illustrating neighborhood collectibles for sale, according to one embodiment. Particularly, FIG. 10 illustrates a hot news location 902, the neighborhood 910, neighboring users 1002A-C, an online interview tab 1004, a locked neighborhood banter entry 1006 and an item for sale 1008, according to one embodiment.

The hot news location 902 may be a specific geographic location (e.g., Peyton Manning's house) associated with a hot news story 102 in the geo-spatial environment 150. The neighboring user(s) 1002A-C may be individuals residing a threshold distance away from the hot news location 902 in the neighborhood 910. The online interview tab 1004 may enable the neighboring user 1002A for an immediate communication through the geo-spatial social network. The online interview tab 1004 may display information that the neighboring user 1002A is available for online interview regarding the hot news story 102. The locked neighborhood banter entry 1006 may display locked contents associated with the neighborhood banter of the neighboring user 1002C. The item for sale 1008 may display goods that the neighboring user 1002B wishes to sell.

In the example embodiment illustrated in FIG. 10, the user interface view 1000 of the hot news map displays the hot news location 902 associated with the hot news story 102. The online interview tab 1004 displays "available online for interview ($45/20 min)" associated with the neighboring user 1002A (e.g., John Doe). The locked neighborhood banter entry 1006 displays the locked user-generated content "exclusive videos of Peyton's celebration party". The items for sale 1008 displays item "autographed Peyton Manning football for sale $75" associated with the neighboring user 1002B (e.g., Uba Fayed).

The user-generated contents (e.g., the user-generated contents 152 of FIG. 1) of the submission form of the neighboring users 1002A-C may be locked. The interested user 226 may be charged a consideration for access to the user-generated contents 152 of the submission form of the neighboring users 1002A-C. The neighboring users 1002A-C may be compensated with the consideration. A percentage of the consideration may be allocated to the geo-spatial social network (e.g., through the finance module 220 of FIG. 2). The user-generated contents 152 of the submission form may be evaluated in response to a request of a moderator, prior to locking the user-generated contents.

FIG. 11 is a process flow of processing contents associated with the submission form of neighboring users (e.g., the neighboring users 228A-N of FIG. 2), according to one embodiment. In operation 1102, a geo-spatial environment (e.g., the geo-spatial environment 150 of FIG. 1) may be generated, in which residents are represented as users and in which residents have associated meta-data indicating a physical location and/or an electronic location of the users. In operation 1104, a news story (e.g., the hot news 102 of FIG. 1) from a news provider may be processed (e.g., using the news provider module 206 of FIG. 2) and/or geo-tagged to a location identifier.

In operation 1106, a user selection of the submit banter indicator that is geo-tagged to the same location as the news story (e.g., the hot news 102 of FIG. 1) may be processed (e.g., using the banter module 312 of FIG. 3). In operation 1108, a submission form may be processed (e.g., using the submission module 300 of FIG. 3) when the submit banter indicator is selected. In operation 1110, an audio, a video, a photo, and/or a banter comment may be displayed (e.g., using the display module 212 and/or the publication module 214 of FIG. 2) in the geo-spatial environment 150.

FIG. 12A is a process flow of the hot news module 208 of FIG. 2, according to one embodiment. In operation 1202, a hot news story (e.g., the hot news 102 of FIG. 1) may be identified (e.g., using the news provider module 206 of FIG. 2). In operation 1204, the hot news story 102 may be associated with a specific geographic location (e.g., the hot news location 222 of FIG. 2). In operation 1206, a map (e.g., the geo-spatial map 620 of FIG. 6) concurrently displaying a headline of the hot news story 102 and the specific geographic location 222 may be generated (e.g., using the hot news module 208 of FIG. 2).

In operation 1208, profiles associated with users (e.g., the neighboring users 228A-N of FIG. 2) surrounding the specific geographic location associated with the hot news story 102 may be simultaneously displayed (e.g., using the display module 212 of FIG. 2) in the map. In operation 1210, a submission form, having an audio file, a video file, a photo, and/or a comment, associated with the hot news story 102, of a neighboring user 228A-N located a threshold distance away from the specific geographic location 222 of the hot news story 102 may be processed (e.g., using the submission module 300 of FIG. 3).

In operation 1212, an interested user (e.g., the interested user 226 of FIG. 2) may be enabled to access user-generated contents (e.g., the user-generated contents 152 of FIG. 1) of the submission forms associated with the hot news story 102. In operation 1214, a comment from the interested user 226, relating to the user-generated contents 152 of the submission form may be submitted (e.g., using the communication module 216 of FIG. 2).

FIG. 12B is a continuation of the process flow of FIG. 12A, showing additional processes, according to one embodiment. In operation 1216, contact information of the neighboring users 228A-N, located the threshold distance away from the specific geographic location 222 of the hot news story 102 may be generated (e.g., using the contact database 218 of FIG. 2). In operation 1218, the neighboring user 228A-N may be enabled (e.g., using the communication module 216 of FIG. 2) for an immediate communication through a geo-spatial social network.

In operation 1220, the neighboring user 228A-N may be compensated (e.g., using the finance module 220 of FIG. 2-4) with a consideration for the immediate communication regarding the hot news story 102. In operation 1222, a percentage of the consideration may be allocated (e.g., using the finance module 220 of FIG. 2-4) to the geo-spatial social network. In operation 1224, the user-generated contents 152 of the submission form of the neighboring user 228A-N may be locked (e.g., using the locked neighborhood banter entry 1006 of FIG. 10). In operation 1226, the user (e.g., the interested user 226) may be charged (e.g., using the finance module 220 of FIG. 2-4) a consideration for access to the content (e.g., the user-generated contents 152) of the submission form of the neighboring user 228A-N.

In operation 1228, the neighboring user 228A-N may be compensated (e.g., using the finance module 220 of FIG. 2-4) with the consideration (e.g., a financial disbursement). In

operation **1230**, a percentage of the consideration may be allocated to the geo-spatial social network.

FIG. **12**C is a continuation of the process flow of FIG. **12**B, showing additional processes, according to one embodiment. In operation **1232**, the user-generated contents **152** of the submission form of the neighboring user **228**A-N may be marketed for sale. In operation **1234**, the neighboring user **228**A-N may be compensated (e.g., using the finance module **220** of FIG. **2**-**4**) with a consideration. In operation **1236**, a percentage of the consideration may be allocated to the geo-spatial social network.

In operation **1238**, the user-generated contents **152** of the submission form may be evaluated in response to a request of a moderator, prior to locking the user-generated contents **152**. In operation **1240**, a classified view of purchasable items may be generated when the neighboring user **228**A-N markets goods associated with the hot news story **102**. In operation **1242**, the users (e.g., of the geo-spatial social network and/or the geo-spatial environment **150**) may be notified (e.g., using the publication module **214** of FIG. **2**) that the submission form associated with the hot news story **102** has been submitted (e.g., using the news provider module **206** of FIG. **2**). In operation **1244**, the user-generated contents **152** of the submission form may be syndicated (e.g., using the publication module **214** of FIG. **2**) in a published media.

FIG. **13** is a process flow of an interested party (e.g., the interested user **226** of FIG. **2**) contacting a group consisting of neighboring users (e.g., the neighboring users **228**A-N of FIG. **2**) surrounding a specific geographic location (e.g., the hot news location **222** of FIG. **2**), according to one embodiment. In operation **1302**, a current event (e.g., the hot news **102** of FIG. **1**) may be associated (e.g., using the news provider module **206** of FIG. **2**) with the specific geographic location (e.g., the hot news location **222** of FIG. **2**). In operation **1304**, a group comprising the neighboring users **228**A-N surrounding the specific geographic location **222** of the current event in a geo-spatial social network may be created (e.g., using the contact database **218** of FIG. **2**). In operation **1306**, a chat room may be generated (e.g., using the banter module **312** of FIG. **3**) such that the neighboring users **228**A-N in the group may communicate with each other. In operation **1308**, an interested party (e.g., the interested user **226** of FIG. **2**) may be enabled to contact (e.g., using the communication module **216** of FIG. **2**) the group regarding the current event (e.g., the hot news **102**).

Although the present embodiments have been described with reference to specific example embodiments, it will be evident that various modifications and changes may be made to these embodiments without departing from the broader spirit and scope of the various embodiments. For example, the various devices, modules, analyzers, generators, etc. described herein may be enabled and operated using hardware circuitry (e.g., CMOS based logic circuitry), firmware, software and/or any combination of hardware, firmware, and/or software (e.g., embodied in a machine readable medium). For example, the various electrical structure and methods may be embodied using transistors, logic gates, and/or electrical circuits (e.g., Application Specific Integrated Circuitry (ASIC), Digital Signal Processor (DSP) circuitry, etc.).

For example, the news provider module **206**, the hot news module **208**, the feed module **210**, the display module **212**, the publication module **214**, the communication module **216**, the finance module **220**, the submission module **300**, the wiki module **302**, the audio module **304**, the video module **306**, the photo module **308**, the banter module **312** and other modules of FIGS. **1**-**13** may be enabled using a news provider circuit, a hot news circuit, a feed circuit, a display circuit, a publication circuit, a communication circuit, a finance circuit, a submission circuit, a wiki circuit, a audio circuit, a video circuit, a photo circuit, a banter circuit and other circuits using one or more of the technologies described herein.

In addition, it will be appreciated that the various operations, processes, and methods disclosed herein may be embodied in a machine-readable medium and/or a machine accessible medium compatible with a data processing system (e.g., a computer system), and may be performed in any order. Accordingly, the specification and drawings are to be regarded in an illustrative rather than a restrictive sense.

What is claimed is:

**1**. A method for providing users of information with timely information about a news story related to the geographic locations of the users, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a submission of a news story from the Internet via a computer network interface device, the news story comprising a geographic location of the news story, a description of the details of the news story and information related to the marketing of goods associated with the news story;

searching a contact database, the contact database stored on a computer and comprising electronic contact information and geographic location information for a plurality of users, to select users whose geographic locations indicate a proximity to the geographic location of the news story;

providing, via the computer network interface device, the selected users with the geographic location of the news story, the description of the details of the news story, and the information related to the marketing of goods associated with the news story;

enabling an interested user to form an immediate communication in the form of an online interview with at least one of a neighboring user surrounding the specific geographic location of the news story;

generating a contact information of users, wherein the contact information comprises at least one of an email address, an instant message identification and a telephonic contact number; and

permitting other users to access the contact information of the user when the user makes a submission in order to permit immediate communication between at least the other user and the submitter user.

**2**. The method of claim **1**, where:

the description of the details of the news story comprises an audio file.

**3**. The method of claim **1**, where:

the description of the details of the news story comprises a video file.

**4**. The method of claim **1**, where:

the description of the details of the news story comprises a photograph.

**5**. The method of claim **1**, where:

the description of the details of the news story comprises text.

**6**. The method of claim **1**, further comprising the step of:

allowing one of the selected users to communicate with another of the selected users regarding the news story.

**7**. The method of claim **1**, further comprising the step of:

allowing one of the selected users to upload comments associated with the news story.

**8**. The method of claim **1**, further comprising the step of:

allowing one of the selected users to upload photographs associated with the news story.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
allowing one of the selected users to upload audio associated with the news story.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
allowing one of the selected users to upload video associated with the news story.

11. The method of claim 1, where:
the step of providing the selected users with the description of the details of the news story is accomplished using email.

12. The method of claim 1, where:
the step of providing the selected users with the description of the details of the news story is accomplished using instant messaging.

13. The method of claim 1, where:
the step of providing the selected users with the description of the details of the news story is accomplished by displaying it on a user interface.

14. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of creating a group of users comprising at least the other user and the submitter user.

15. A computer system for providing interested users with timely information about a news story occurring near the physical address of the interested users, the computer system comprising:
an interface to a first computer, the first computer being associated with a submitter of a news story, the news story comprising a geographic location of the news story, a description of the details of the news story and information related to the marketing of goods associated with the news story;
an interface to a plurality of additional computers, the additional computers being associated with interested users of the news story;
a contact database of information about potential interested users, the information comprising an electronic address and a physical address for each of the potential interested users;
a processor comprising software for receiving the news story via the interface to the first computer, for searching the contact database to select interested users, from among the potential interested users, whose physical addresses indicate a proximity to the geographic location of the news story, for electronically notifying the interested users about the news story via the interface to the additional computers, for enabling an interested user to form an immediate communication in the form of an online interview with at least one of a neighboring user surrounding the specific geographic location of the news story, generating a contact information of users, wherein the contact information comprises at least one of an email address, an instant message identification and a telephonic contact number, and permitting other users to access the contact information of the user when the user makes a submission in order to permit immediate communication between at least the other user and the submitter user.

16. The computer system of claim 14, where:
the description of the details of the news story comprises an audio file.

17. The computer system of claim 14, where:
the description of the details of the news story comprises a video file.

18. The computer system of claim 14, where:
the description of the details of the news story comprises a photograph.

19. The computer system of claim 14, where:
the description of the details of the news story comprises text.

20. The computer system of claim 14, where:
the processor further comprises software for allowing one of the interested users to communicate with another of the interested users regarding the news story.

21. The computer system of claim 14, where:
the processor further comprises software for allowing an interested user to upload comments associated with the news story.

22. The computer system of claim 14, where:
the processor further comprises software for allowing an interested user to upload photographs associated with the news story.

23. The computer system of claim 14, where:
the processor further comprises software for allowing an interested user to upload audio associated with the news story.

24. The computer system of claim 14, where:
the processor further comprises software for allowing an interested user to upload audio associated with the news story.

25. The computer system of claim 14, where:
the software notifies the interested users of the news story via email.

26. The computer system of claim 14, where:
the software notifies the interested users of the news story via instant messaging.

27. The computer system of claim 14, where:
the software notifies the interested users of the news story by displaying it on a user interface.

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